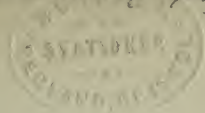


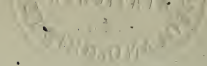
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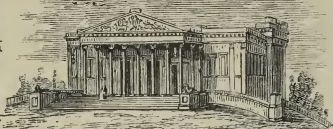


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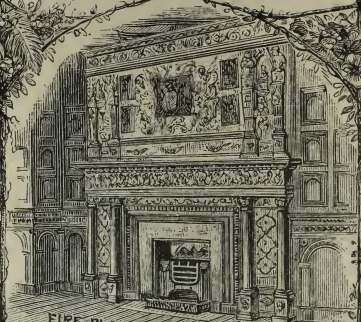
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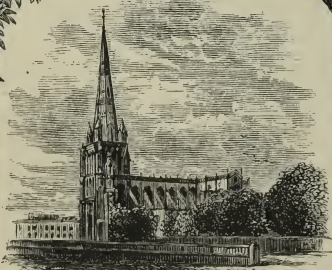
VICTORIA ROOMS.



FIRE PLACE IN RED LODGE.



SUSPENSION BRIDGE.



REDCLIFFE CHURCH.



HIGH CROSS.

BRISTOL
AND CLIFTON
OLD AND NEW.

By JOHN TAYLOR,
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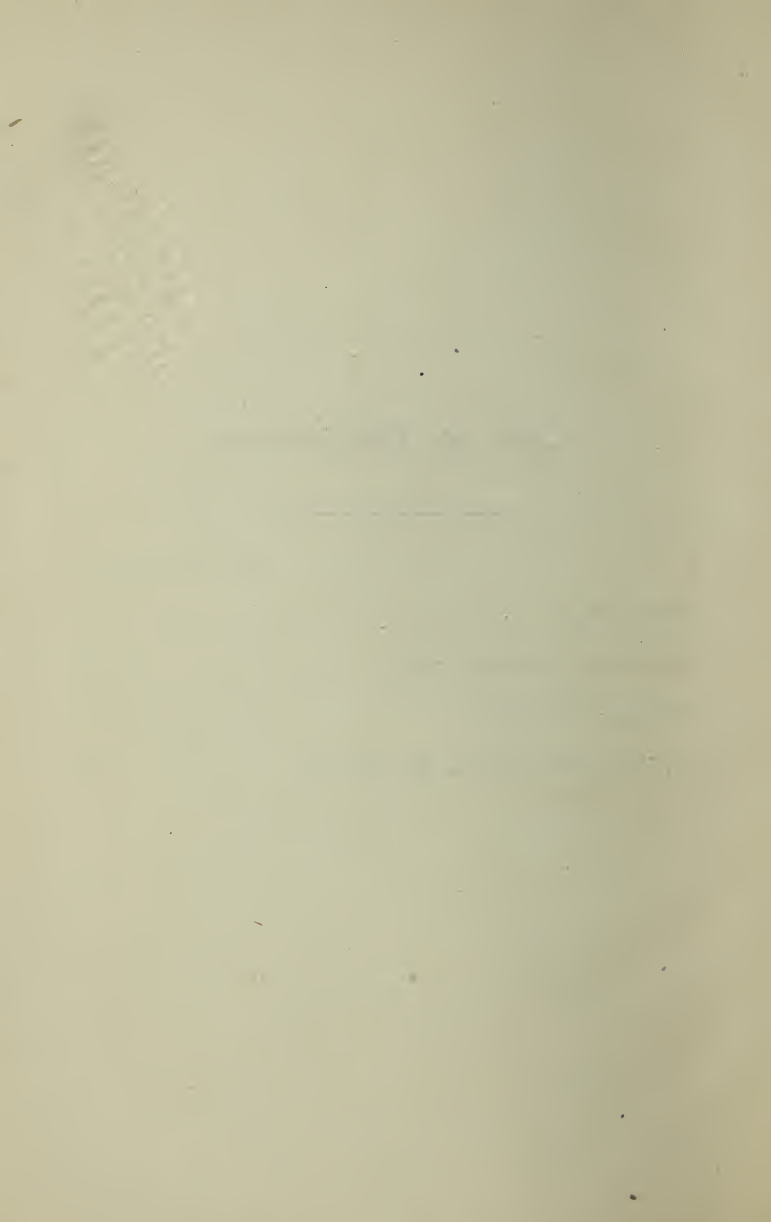
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INTRODUCTION.

THE contents of the present Handbook are in part a condensation of *A Book about Bristol* now out of print, and of the writer's contributions to *Bristol and its Environs*. Many freshly gathered particulars will however be found in the manual now offered, among which are the earliest mention yet discovered of Redcliff Church; some account of the first enclosure of Sneed Park, Over, &c., points not to be found in any of the county histories or in previous handbooks.

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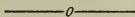
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Old and New Bristol.



HISTORICAL SKETCH.

BRISTOL at first sight appears to be situated in a hollow surrounded by hills more or less distant, but on nearer examination it will be found that while the ancient city was confined between the Avon and Frome, which run through the place and unite at the Quay, Modern Bristol has spread over the banks of both rivers and climbed the adjacent heights.

The City lies in $51^{\circ} 27'$ N. lat. and $2^{\circ} 35'$ W. long. at the Southern extremity of Gloucestershire and the Northern of Somerset, but is independent of both Counties, having been constituted a County in itself by a Charter of Edward III. The Redcliff and Temple districts, South of the Avon, are, however, nominally reckoned in Somerset, and the territory North of that river in Gloucestershire, Bristol Bridge being the link between the Counties.

Though Bristol has deservedly gained much fame for maritime enterprise, it admits of question whether the situation of the town was happily chosen, seeing that had it been established at the mouth of the Avon rather than eight miles inland, the difficult navigation of that sinuous river would have been avoided and the facilities for extended commerce increased without limit. The primitive adoption of the present site, however, was for the sake of this difficulty of access to the town, the river and rocks serving for a natural moat and rampart against

unexpected maritime invasion. The present dockising at Avonmouth is a use of physical advantages that were not open for adoption during the domination of the sea kings.

Mr. Seyer gives forty-two variations in the spelling of the name Bristol, and after showing attempted derivations from Brennus the legendary founder of the city, Brictric its Saxon-lord, &c., finally decides for Brig-stow, or Bridge-town, an etymology accepted by the author of *Words and Places*, and favoured by the Rev. John Earle.

Though some coins and a few other Roman relics have been found within the compass of the city, the traces of settlement are too scanty to prove the Roman foundation or even occupation of the site. But the existence of Danish and Saxon money of Bristol mintage, shows that the place was a habitation and a name before the Norman Conquest.

Bristowe Castle is not mentioned in Domesday Book, but appears first in history in connexion with Geoffrey Mowbray, Bishop of Coutance, nephew to Tancred, the chivalrous hero of Tasso's *Jerusalem Delivered*. We find him at Bristol in the year 1088, in company with Robert Mowbray, the "Peace Breaker," his nephew, a tall, dark-complexioned, proud and melancholy man, who rarely smiled. These had combined with Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, against William Rufus, in favour of Robert, Earl of Normandy, and the Castle of Bristol was their central stronghold. The plot failed, and the rebellious prelates were driven out of the kingdom. William Rufus, being now in peaceable possession of the kingdom, granted the Royalty or Honour of Gloucester, including Bristowe and its Castle, to his cousin Robert Fitzhamon, whose daughter and heiress, Mabel, marrying Robert, Earl of Gloucester, natural son of Henry I., brought her splendid dower into the possession of that powerful baron, and thence to his descendants.

Earl Robert having headed the cause of his half sister, the Empress Matilda, a series of engagements was fought, which, at the battle of Lincoln, resulted in King Stephen falling into Gloucester's hands, who confined him in

Bristol Castle. In no long time the royal cause revived, and the king was released in exchange for "the Red Earl" himself who had been taken prisoner and lodged in the Castle of Rochester.

In 1147, Robert Earl of Gloucester died at Bristol Castle and was buried in the chancel of St. James' Church. His immense estates, including the lordship of Bristol, were inherited by his son William, who, dying in 1189, left three daughters, co-heiresses. John, Earl of Moreton, afterwards King John, marrying Avis, the youngest of these ladies, acquired the Honour of Gloucester, with the town and castle of Bristol in dower. Henry III., immediately upon the death of John, came for security to Bristol, when "he permitted, A.D. 1216, the town to choose a mayor after the manner of London, and with him were chosen two grave, sad and worshipful men who were called prepositors."

One of the earliest and most important steps towards the improvement of the port was the excavation of a new channel for the Frome. That river, which rises near Tetbury, enters Bristol on the east at Traitor's Bridge, and runs for the most part underground to the Stone Bridge at the bottom of Small Street. Formerly it turned at right angles from near the latter point, and ran through St. Stephen Street, and Baldwin Street to join the Avon under the south side of St. Nicholas Church. By the enterprise of the citizens, the present quay was formed in 1247, by cutting through the Marsh at the east end of St. Augustine's Church, thus opening a communication with the Avon. At the same period the first bridge was thrown across the Avon, and Redcliff, which had been an independent borough, was incorporated with Bristol.

Among the privileges included in the charter (1373) that constituted Bristol a distinct county were the return of two representatives to Parliament; and the empowering of the Mayor and Sheriff to elect successively from time to time forty "of the better and more honest men of the town as a council to rate and levy taxes, &c." which common council in nearly its original

form is yet maintained. The first mention of the election of aldermen also occurs in the reign of Edward III., and a further advance towards self-government was a release from the feudal custom of the mayor yearly on Michaelmas day taking oath of office at the Castle Gate from the constable of the Castle; it being henceforth allowed that the mayor elect should be sworn before the out-going mayor, in the Guildhall, in the presence of the citizens.

Richard II. confirmed the former grants and directed that the steward, marshal and clerk of the royal household should not sit in the town of Bristol, as before had been granted to city of London. In 1387, this luxurious sovereign came to Bristol with "the queen, and all the ladies and damsels of her court," and he again came here in 1399, at a time when a popular revolution over the kingdom prepared the way for Henry Bolingbroke. Scarcely had Richard departed from the castle when that fortress was besieged by Bolingbroke himself, and being surrendered on conditions, Scrope, Earl of Wiltshire, Sir Henry Green, and Sir John Bushie who had defended its walls, were taken captive and shortly executed at the High Cross at the intersection of the four principal streets.

By the death of Queen Johanna (1437) Bristol reverted to the crown. The mayor was required to furnish a representation of the receipts and profits of the town to the royal exchequer. In the account of the customs on the merchandize in ships and boats, a list is given of 220 vessels, with the dues charged on each, the total amount being £21 16s. 8d., or about 2s. the cargo.

Bristol may be considered to have reached the climax of her architectural grandeur in the 15th century. We have even yet evidence of this in the existence of such monuments of her prosperity and piety as the church of St. Stephen with its regal tower, and the sumptuous church of St. Mary Redcliff, to say nothing of St. Mark's, St. John's, St. Werburgh's, St. Peter's, St. Philip's, St. James, the Temple Church, and numberless examples of picturesque and costly residences, such as Canynge's

house in Redcliff Street, and St. Peter's Hospital, all of which pieces of architecture still testify to the taste and opulence of the leading burghers of that period. William Canynge the younger was perhaps the greatest merchant in England. On an average, between 1450 and 1460, he employed 800 seamen in the navigation of his vessels. He enjoyed a monopoly of the trade to Iceland and Finmark, and in 1449 Henry VI. especially invited the favour of the Master-General of Prussia, and the magistrates of Dantzic, towards William Canynge, his "beloved and eminent merchant of Bristol."

Not only was Bristol eminent in her merchant princes, inasmuch that an Italian who wrote a "Relation of England," in A.D. 1500, remarks, "There are scarcely any towns of importance in the kingdom except two, Bristol, a seaport to the west, and York." But she may claim to have at this time produced, in the brilliant scholar Grocyn, the first professor or public teacher of Greek in England, who thus introduced the study of a new world of literature. And as a fresh world for the intellect was unfolded by one born in the great western city, so to another of the sons of Bristol is due the renown of discovering a new continent of the great material globe, a continent that has itself been called a "new world." In the annals of navigation it may be questioned if any greater name is to be found, that of Columbus not excepted, than Sebastian Cabot, who, sailing from this port on 2nd May, 1497, was the first European to hail the vast country which we now call the United States, which he touched on St. John the Baptist Day (June 24th) of the same year.

Towards the close of the 15th century, at the time William Worcester wrote his Itinerary, the Saxon area of the town had increased four-fold, and was truly a "towered city." When the hermit looked down from his retreat on Brandon Mount, he might view no less than twenty-three strong towers upon the lines of crenellated walls that encompassed the town, besides nine over the principal gates, one of these walls comprising in its circuit five parish churches of which

St. John's alone remains. Outside the city was the spire of Redcliff on the West, and towards the North the spire of the Carmelites or White Monks, each 200 feet high. To the East were the embattled walls and seven towers of the Norman Castle, of which the donjon keep was like in form and dimensions to the White Tower of London. To the West was St. Austin's Abbey, with the nave of the church and the architectural members of its conventual arrangements undestroyed. At the East end of St. Austin's was the church of St. Augustine-the-Less; and just by was the College of Bon-Hommes, the beauty of the buildings of which may yet be judged from its existing chapel (now the Mayor's). Then followed in quick succession, St. Michael's church, with the Hermitage close to its walls, the Nunnery of St. Mary Magdalen at the foot of the Green Hill of St. Michael's, the chapel of the Three Kings of Cologne; the Hospital of S. Bartholomew; the Convent of the Franciscan or Grey Friars' in Lewin's Mead; the magnificent Benedictine Priory of St. James; and just under the merlons of the Castle, the Friary of the Dominicans, some important relics of which may still be seen. Besides these, in continuation of the circuit was the Trinity Hospital at Lafford's Gate, and St. John's, the Lepers' house close by; the church and Sanctuary of St. Philip; the chapel of St. Anne on the wooded banks of the Avon at Brislington; the church of the Holy Cross or Temple; the Eremite Friars at Temple Gate; the Hospital of Brightbow, Bedminster; the House of St. John of Jerusalem, Redcliff Hill; and, recrossing the Avon, the chapel and Hermitage of St. Vincent on the romantic cliff. We have not mentioned the religious buildings inside the walls; but within and without the town were no less than 19 parish churches, two of which were attached to Convents. In short there were as many as 80 towers, besides crosses, fountains, conduits, and the numberless picturesque houses, of which every one was a study.

As the town itself was clasped within its fortified walls, and like a mailed knight was ready to challenge

all strange comers, so within the town the numerous fraternities of trade formed each a separate federation as close against intruders as the embattled squadrons of an army. Each parish, likewise, was a guild in itself, and close watch was kept that none moved from one parish into another without security that such persons should not become chargeable to the parish they had removed to. Of the guilds of commerce the Society of Merchant Venturers still exists, and is undoubtedly the traditional representative of a merchant corporation that petitioned Edward IV. for the confirmation of their prerogatives, and was even at that time claimed to be an ancient guild. The present company was incorporated by Edward VI., whose charter recites that men who had never been apprenticed to merchants having with strange ships encroached upon the trade of the port, to prevent the continuance of such irregularities the freemen of the city using the art or mystery of Merchant Venturers should be incorporated by the style of master, wardens, and commonalty of Merchant Venturers of the city of Bristol.

The doctrines of the Reformation are accredited to have been preached in Bristol by Wycliff himself. There can be little doubt of the fact, seeing that Edward III. had presented him with the Prebend of Aust, in the Collegiate Church of Westbury-on-Trym, in which position, with his opportunities and zeal, he could hardly fail to have recommended his opinions in this important town. John Purney, his chaplain, is known to have "preached in Brystowe, and publicly taught that the celebration of the mass is a human, and not an evangelical, tradition." About A.D. 1520, William Tyndall, famous afterwards as the first translator of the Bible, used frequently to disseminate his doctrines here, and, in 1533, Cranmer came and preached at St. Augustine's Abbey, reforming "many things that were amisse." About a year later, Latimer, whose benefice was at West Kington in Wiltshire, came to Bristol, and threw the town into confusion by the novelty of his discourses, such as that in hell there is no sensible

fire ; that the souls in Purgatory have no need of our prayers, but rather to pray for us ; “no saints to be honored, no pilgrimages to be used ; our blessyd lady to be a sinner,” &c. In contradiction to these opinions Father Hubberden, a great enemy of Latimer, asserted in the pulpit of St. Thomas’ Church (where Latimer had just before preached) that twenty *aves* to Our Lady should be said for one *paternoster*. He, moreover, affirmed “that the Pope is king and prince of all the world, that the gospel in English bringeth men to heresy,” &c. Also, Dr. Powell, in defence of pilgrimages, adduced the standard scriptural text that had done duty from the time of the Council of Clermont :—“Whosoever leaveth house, brothers, sisters, father, mother, &c., and showed that whosoever went on pilgrimage to Walsyngham, St. Anne in the Wood (Brislington), left all these, and would receive a hundred fold in this world, and finally everlasting life.” Father Hubberden, in his zeal, declared that all Bristol was run into heresy and knavery, but limited his calumny by saying from St. Thomas’ pulpit that there were twenty or thirty heretics in the town. Hubberden’s own definition of a heretic was one who speaks “against the Pope, or any point of his acts or supremacy.” That there should be even so many as twenty or thirty depravers of the Holy Father’s supremacy seemed so portentous, that Hubberden was examined on the point before the Mayor at the Council House, when the hasty priest thought prudent to withdraw his rash aspersion. All this controversy was the beginning of the end of the Pope’s domination in Bristol. About three years after Latimer’s preaching here, the overthrow of the monasteries was effected. Considering the magnitude of the event and its consequences, very inadequate particulars concerning the dissolution of religious houses in Bristol are recorded. Under the date 1538, in one of the MS. Calendars there is the meagre statement :—“This yeare was put down the four orders of Friars in Bristol ; and also the images of saints, and pilgrimages in all England beside.”

The official letters of the Commissioners contain some off-hand business details, intermixed with much dreary stupidity in unsuccessful attempts to impart to the subject a jocular tone. A sanctified cause demands a sanctified course, but malice, misrepresentation and avarice were the guiding principles of the unworthy king, courtiers, and agents who effected the confiscation of the rich endowments of monasteries, hospitals and chauntries. Some indemnity was made at Bristol by the conversion of the stately Abbey of Austin Canons into a cathedral. The foundation charter is dated June 4th, 1542, actual possession being taken by the Dean and Canons on the following 14th of August. The theory that the see is of Erastian origin and growth, and without the prestige of the ante-Reformation Cathedrals, is, however, only partially correct, though this view has been hitherto the received one. The fiat for the establishment of the cathedral, indeed, went forth from Canterbury, under the signet of Cranmer; but it is obvious that upon the revival of the jurisdiction of Rome, the usurpation by an heretical king of the Pope's prerogative in the creation of an episcopate, even had it not been a Protestant one, and effected by the seizure of a Catholic convent, was a procedure sufficiently grave to demand the Holy Pontiff's interference when his time came. Accordingly Paul IV., by letters apostolic, empowered his legate, Cardinal Pole, to refound (A.D. 1551) the see of Bristol, which re-enactment of the original charter was subsequently ratified at the Vatican. The "pernicious schism" of Protestantism being assumed to be extinguished by the coercive measures of Philip and Mary, John Holyman, a man after their own heart, was by the same document appointed by the Pope to the Bishopric of Bristol. He did not betray his faith. The same year we find him included in a commission to proceed against Ridley and Latimer for heresy. His zeal for the reinstated service met with but unsympathetic return from the civic corporation, for we are told in Burnet's "History of the Reformation."* that

in August 1557, "a complaint was brought to the Council of the Magistrates of Bristol, that they came seldom to the sermons at the cathedral, so that the Dean and Chapter used to go to their houses in procession with their cross carried before them, and to fetch them thence; upon which a letter was written to them, requiring them to conform themselves more willingly to the orders of the church, to frequent the sermons, and go thither of their own accord." To his infinite credit, Bishop Holyman refused to officiate at the burning, in the same year, of three Protestant martyrs on St. Michael's Hill.

Until the fall of the monasteries that encircled the church-crowned battlements of the City, Bristol might be said to have been ecclesiastical rather than commercial in its proper character, or at most it was a commercial centre within an ecclesiastical circumference. (Chatterton whose picturesque language has even yet not been done justice to) likens Religion's self to a grey friar, who, with sad visage and slow pace, approaches the town of Bristow, and seeing the city full of soldiers and merchantmen with few saints among them, is about to retire in despair. But the heavenly visitant is met by Fitzharding, who promises to raise a tall minster for prayer and praise, where he himself would become a monk, and Religion should find secure repose. The numerous convents that rose up before and after the mitred abbey, owed their existence to the powerful Earls of Gloucester, to the Barons of Berkeley and of Beverston Castle, to the Lords de la War, rather than to merchant princes like the Canynges, the Framptons, and the Shipwards, who, three centuries later, built the glorious churches of Bristol. Franciscans, Carmelites, Benedictines, Dominicans, and Austin Canons, with the devotional guilds, hospitals, hermitages, chauntries and churches, made the atmosphere thick with clouds of incense, and must necessarily have hindered secular callings. It might have been thought that when the "cows were sent adrift," and cloistral inaction exchanged for business

pursuits, that there would have been an almost sudden extension of commercial enterprise. It is strange to notice, however, that in the year of Elizabeth (1572), when a general registration was made of the shipping of the kingdom, the commerce of the second seaport of the realm had gone backward. In that year the number of merchant ships attached to the port of Bristol was 53, of which the largest was of 140 tons, the next three being represented at 100 tons each, the aggregate tonnage being 1993.* This was less than the tonnage of Canynge's vessels alone in the previous century.

In the musters taken 1574 and 1575, Bristol represented 800 able men, 20 demi-lances, and 160 light horse.† At the beginning of James I.'s reign, these numbers for the most part had made considerable advance, there being then ascertained to be 5000 able men, 2500 armed men, 400 pioneers, 12 demi-lances, and 28 light horse. The strength of the national army at this period is surprising, the whole numbers being 296,131 able men, 141,310 armed men.‡

We now proceed to an important passage in the history of the present city.

No single episode of the civil war affected Charles more deeply, or proved more decisive of the ultimate event of the struggle than the disloyalty of Bristol, and its final deliverance into the hands of the Parliament. In anticipation of the part soon to be enacted, the great tower of the castle was repaired, and ordnance planted on the top. A fort was erected near the river, thence called the Water Fort on the southern extremity of Brandon Hill. This communicated by a line of wall with the fort on that hill itself, where considerable remains of the redoubt are still to be seen. Thence the line trended downwards to the head of Park Street and proceeded upwards to the Royal Fort on St. Michael's Hill. The curtain then sloped easterly to Colston's Fort near the Montague

Dom. Col. Eliz., Addenda, p. 320.

† Pegge's Cur., I., 75. ‡ Archæologia, XV. 54.

Tavern on Kingsdown Parade, and onward to the fort at Prior's Hill. Hence it pursued its course by Stokes' Croft Gate to Lawford's Gate. Then after reaching the Avon, near the end of Temple Back, it completed its circuit, of between four and five miles compass, by taking in Temple and Redcliff Gates, and joining the Avon again beyond the latter point.

The Mayor, Richard Aldworth, having received a command from the King not to admit troops of either party, placed the gates of the city under double watch and ward. The loyalty of the good Mayor, however, whether real or simulated, was counteracted by the contrary feeling on the part of his wife. That lady, with other influential townswomen, came to the magistrates when sitting in council, and presented petitions that Col. Essex might be admitted with the Parliamentary troops he commanded into the city. This request was soon realized (Dec. 5th, 1642). Essex after an attack upon Frome Gate, being admitted at Newgate, whereupon he immediately took possession of the city and castle. He was soon (Feb. 16th, 1643) followed by Col. Nathaniel Fiennes with five troops of horse and five companies of foot. Some suspicion of the fidelity of Essex being excited, he was arrested, and Fiennes took the command of military affairs.

On Tuesday July 18th, Prince Rupert commenced his march from Oxford towards the west, intending to lay siege to Bristol. No impression being made by his batteries, a council of war was called (26th July), and thereby it was determined to storm the city from all points at once, the time to be the next morning at daybreak. Accordingly the assault commenced before three o'clock, by the firing of the Cornish men on the other side of the city, they having anticipated the time given, through ambition to gain the first advantage of the enemy. A desperate endeavour was then made to win the works and line of Prior's Hill Fort, which was under the command of Robert Blake, afterwards the celebrated Admiral,

but after the loss of Capt. Nowell and nineteen men, no entrance could be effected. Meanwhile operations had been more successfully conducted elsewhere in the line. Col. Washington finding a weak place in the curtain running between Brandon and St. Michael's Hills, at the point corresponding with the present entrance to Park Row, there centered his attack, and breaking through made entrance for horse and foot. With a reinforcement of a thousand Cornish foot, Rupert pressed on to second the troops of Washington. By mid-day the assailants had won their way to the Cathedral, which they invested, together with the adjoining churches of St. Mark and St. Augustine, from which fortresses they directed a sharp fire upon the enemy's works in the neighbourhood. At two o'clock the governor, who had boasted that a flag of truce should be his winding sheet, made signs for a parley, and before ten at night a treaty was concluded by which he agreed to surrender the city on condition that the inhabitants should not be plundered, and that the garrison should be suffered to march out the next morning, the officers with their full arms, bag and baggage, and the common infantry without arms. The loss of the victors is supposed to have exceeded that of the vanquished. Lord Clarendon estimates that about 500 foot soldiers, besides many tried officers, were killed in the several assaults. Though the royalists lost much blood they gained much money, for besides a contribution from the citizens to save the city from being sacked, as much as £100,000 was found in the castle.

But the coming men were Cromwell and Fairfax, and with their arrival the royal cause gave "signs of woe" that not only Bristol but the kingdom itself was lost. Sherborne having fallen into the power of the Parliament, Sir Thomas Fairfax concluded that a great moral effect would be gained by the capture of Bristol.* Accordingly on August 18th, 1645, he began his march, and on Friday the 22nd arrived at Clifton. The royal

* Deane's Life of Richard Deane, 194.

garrison in the city amounted to 2,300 men, but not more than 1500 could be brought upon the line at once, and many of these were inexperienced Welshmen. Rupert having anticipated the approach of the enemy, had issued command for all the inhabitants to victual themselves for six months. There were 2500 families within the walls of the city, and of these 1500 were too poor to provide for themselves. To meet exigencies of this kind the Prince imported 2000 bushels of corn from Wales, and upon the certain approach of the enemy ordered all the cattle about the suburbs to be driven within the walls. On the 29th of August a solemn fast was kept in the Parliament camp "to seek God for a blessing upon the designs against Bristol." After this pious exercise, a Council of War was summoned, during the sitting of which news arrived that the king was in full march from Hereford to join Goring in the west;* and that when united with that general's forces, he intended to fall upon the besiegers of Bristol, and with the help of a simultaneous sally of Prince Rupert from the city to utterly rout them. The situation of the enemy was critical, but Fairfax and Cromwell were equal to the emergency. It was determined to carry Bristol by storm at any sacrifice, and without any loss of time; thus agreeing with Livy, *in rebus asperis et tenui spe fortissima consilia tutissima sunt.*

The order of the day was as follows:—Colonel Weldon and his Taunton Brigade were to storm on the Somersetshire side in three places, viz:—"200 men in the middle, and 200 on each side as Forlorn Hopes, were to begin the assault; 20 ladders, each carried by two men, who were to have 5s. a piece, were to be planted against the wall, the two sergeants who attended the service of each ladder were to have 20s., Twelve files of men, with firearms and pikes, were to follow each ladder to its place, where it was to be planted. Each party of twelve was to be commanded by a captain and lieutenant, the lieutenant to go in first with five file, the captain to succeed the other with

* Clarendon.

seven. The 200 men appointed to second the stormers were to furnish each party of them with 20 pioneers, who were to march in their rear. The 200 men to be commanded by a field officer, and the pioneers by a sergeant. The pioneers were to level the rampart or wall, and make way for the horse," &c.*

General Fairfax's Brigade, under the command of Col. Montague, (afterwards the celebrated Admiral Sir Edward Montague, who brought Charles II. over to England, 1660), were to storm on both sides of Lawford's Gate, on the Gloucestershire side, in the same order as the Taunton Brigade on the Somersetshire side of the town. Both assaults were to begin at the same time.†

Col. Weldon took up his post (Sept. 10th) on Pile Hill, on the south side of the city.‡ On the Gloucestershire side everything succeeded according to anticipation. The lines were carried, and twenty-two cannon and many prisoners were taken, and all the forts except one—Prior's Hill Fort, which was so high that a ladder of thirty rounds scarcely reached the top. Beneath this place Col. Ramsborough fought nearly three hours. "The enemy," says Cromwell, "had four pieces of cannon upon it, which they plied with round and case shot upon our men." At length some of the soldiers, entering through the embrasures, helped others up, and the colours were captured. The defenders then yielded, and the fort was won. The infuriated assailants "immediately," says Cromwell, "put almost all the men in it to the sword."§ Major Price was killed, together with the commandant and all his officers, the few who escaped the massacre owing their lives to the interference of the Parliamentary leaders. Next day, while Fairfax and Cromwell were sitting within the captured fort, and discussing their successes, a ball, aimed by a cannonier from the castle, whistled by within two handbreadths of them. A little more accuracy of aim would have rolled

* Deane's Life of Rd. Deane, 197. † Ib.

‡ Carlyle's Cromwell, i., 183. § Ib., 186. Deane, 303.

back the tide of war, and been the means of diverting the current of many succeeding years.

On the Somersêtshire side the attack failed, through the shortness of the ladders. Col. Weldon was repulsed with the loss of about a hundred men.*

"Being possessed of thus much," reports Cromwell, "the town was fired in three places by the enemy, which we could not put out, which begat a great trouble in the General and us all, fearing to see so famous a city burnt to ashes before our faces. Whilst we were viewing so sad a spectacle, and consulting which way to make further advantage of our success, the Prince sent a trumpet to the General to desire a treaty for the surrender of the town, to which the General agreed; and deputed Col. Montague, Col. Rainsborough, and Col. Pickering for that service, authorising them with instructions to treat and conclude the articles. These articles being agreed upon, preparations were made for the departure of the garrison, and on Thursday, at two o'clock in the afternoon, they marched out with Prince Rupert at their head." "We had not killed of ours in the storm," says Cromwell, "nor in all this siege, two hundred men." "He who runs may read," remarks the same general "that all this is none other than the work of God. He must be a very Atheist that doth not acknowledge it."

"Prince Rupert rode out of Bristol amid seas of angry human faces, glooming unutterable things upon him."† The King was at Ragland when the news came of the loss of Bristol. The blow was one of the heaviest he had received. In the memorable letter in which he dismisses Prince Rupert from his service, he passionately says:—"I must remember you of your letter of the twelfth of August, whereby you assured me that if no mutiny happened, you would keep Bristol four months. Did you keep it four days? Was there anything like a mutiny?"

We may here touch upon the rise of Nonconformity in Bristol.

* Cromwell's Letter, Carlyle, i., 186. † Carlyle, i, 183.

On 19th September, "the Committee for establishing a godly and pious preaching ministry" was appointed. Accordingly, at Christ Church, the learned Dr. Stanfast was succeeded by one Ewens, a tailor. The Vicar of St. Philip's was supplanted by Edward Hancock, a butler, who, when removed at the Restoration, opened a public house at Horfield. Towgood, of St. Nicholas, was first of all manacled with common malefactors in a filthy dungeon, then sentenced to be shot, a fate that he barely escaped, and afterwards imprisoned in Bristol Castle, without fire or light, or any friend being allowed to visit him. The bishop and his lady having been ejected from the palace, that building was made to serve many years for a malt house.

Though the path to the clergy was rather over thorns than flowers, their Puritan brethren enjoyed halcyon days. Cromwell rejoices that "Presbyterians, Independents, all have here the same spirit of faith and prayer, the same presence and answer; they agree here, have no names of difference; pity it should be otherwise any where!"

Twelve years after the tragedy at Whitehall, at which time the Mayor of Bristol had proclaimed "that there was no king in England, and the successors of Charles I. were traitors to the State," the Sheriff and Mayor proclaimed Charles II. at the High Cross.

In May, 1660, the city having returned to its allegiance, entreated the King for a ratification of their former privileges. Thereupon, in a letter to the magistrates, dated September 24th of the same year, Charles confesses a particular kindness for Bristol, as a place where he has long resided. He wishes all who had been removed from the Corporation for their loyalty to be restored.*

Lord Macaulay in speaking of Bristol as it existed about this time remarks: "Next to the capital, but next at an immense distance, stood Bristol, then the first English seaport, and Norwich, then the first English manufacturing town. Both cities have since that time

* Dom. Cal. Chas. II., 274.

Chas. II., 1685) been far outstripped by younger rivals ; yet both have made great positive advances. The population of Bristol has quadrupled. The population of Norwich has more than doubled."

"Pepys, who visited Bristol eight years after the Restoration, was struck by the splendour of the city. But his standard was not high ; for he noted down as a wonder the circumstance that, in Bristol, a man might look round him and see nothing but houses. It seems that, in no other place with which he was acquainted, except London, did the buildings completely shut out the woods and fields. Large as Bristol might then appear, it occupied but a very small portion of the area on which it now stands. A few churches of eminent beauty rose out of a labyrinth of narrow lanes built upon vaults of no great solidity. The hospitality of the city was widely renowned, and especially the collations with which the sugar refiners regaled their visitors. The repast was dressed in the furnace, and was accompanied by a rich beverage made of the best Spanish wine, and celebrated over the whole kingdom as Bristol milk.* This luxury was supported by a thriving trade with the North American plantations, and with the West Indies. The passion for colonial traffic was so strong that there was scarcely a small shopkeeper in Bristol who had not a venture on board of some ship bound for Virginia or the Antilles. There was, in the transatlantic possessions of the Crown, a great demand for labour ; and this demand was partly supplied by a system of crimping and kidnapping at the principal English seaports. Nowhere was this system in such active and extensive operation as at Bristol. Even the first magistrates of that city were

* "Though as many elephants are fed," says old Fuller, "as cows grazed within the walls of this city, yet great plenty of this metaphorical milk, whereby Xeres or Sherry Sack is intended. Some will have it called milk, because (whereas nurses give new-born babes in some places pap, in others water and sugar) such wine is the first moisture given infants in this city. It is also the entertainment, of course, which the courteous Bristolians present to all strangers, when first visiting their city."—*Worthies*, 34.

not ashamed to enrich themselves by so odious a commerce. The number of houses appears from the returns of the hearth money, to have been in the year 1685, just five thousand three hundred. We can hardly suppose the number of persons in a house to have been greater than in the City of London; and in the City of London we learn from the best authority that there were fifty-five persons to ten houses. The population of Bristol must therefore have been about 29,000 souls.”*

If it is “only noble to be good,” few men of more dignity of character are to be found than Edward Colston. His splendid benevolence has made his name a household word among his townsmen, and John Kyrle is not more “the man of Ross” than Edward Colston is the “man of Bristol,” though unfortunately he has not like the former hero been celebrated in numbers by any bardic author of “Moral Essays.” He was born in Temple Street, Bristol, Nov. 2nd, 1636, but much of his life was spent in or near London. After the death of his father in 1681, he settled in Bristol, and carried on the business he had inherited, which was principally that of a merchant to the West Indies, whence he imported sugar and other commodities in exchange for English goods. In partnership with Sir Thos. Day, Captain Nathaniel Wade (who was implicated in the Monmouth Rebellion), and another, he set up a sugar refinery at the Old Mint, now St. Peter’s Hospital. To enumerate his charitable works would be impossible, so many of them having been done secretly. In the foundation of schools and almshouses, repairs of churches, &c., so far as known, he gave £70,695, which of course in his day represented a much larger sum than at present. He lost one ship and would probably have lost another had not the leak been stopped by a dolphin insinuating itself into the hole. At least this is the explanation of a dolphin being selected for his crest. His benefactions were not restricted to Bristol. Every year he went through Whitechapel prison and the Marshalsea to shower his

* Macaulay’s Hist. Eng. 165.

money in freeing the most deserving debtors incarcerated for small sums, and in one case he sent £3000 to liberate the poor debtors in Ludgate prison.* He gave £20,000 to relieve the starving poor of London in 1709, a year of famine. In at least one instance he was more ready to give than his munificence was to be accepted. In 1702 when he proposed to increase the number of scholars in Queen Elizabeth's Hospital from 44 to 100, provided the Corporation would erect a commensurate building, the Bristol Aldermen refused the offer, and denounced the institution as a "nursery for beggars and sloths, and rather a burden than a benefit to the place."† This churlish rebuff did not however prevent his establishing a similar institution on another spot in the city. The great house on the site of St. Augustine's Back, which occupied the site of the present Colston's Hall, was purchased, and converted into a Hospital for 100 boys to be fed, clothed, and instructed in writing and arithmetic, till they should attain the age of 14 years, with £10 each as fee of apprenticeship. The expense of erection and endowment, all in his life time, was £40,000.‡ He died at Mortlake in 1721, at the age of eighty-five. He did no evil to live after him, and the good he did was not interred with his bones. Three societies yearly assemble on "Saint" Colston's day (Nov. 9th) and celebrate his memory with flowing cups and flowing speech; and at the same time more practically recognise his philanthropic character by the contribution of liberal alms to the poor that are always with us. Up to the end of 1876 the amounts severally collected by the Dolphin, Anchor, and Grateful Societies have attained an aggregate of £117,000.

A spirit not altogether of another sort, though one was a high Tory Churchman and the other a Quaker, was Richard Reynolds, a native of Bristol, and one of

* W. W. Webster, Cassell's Technical Educator, iv., 22.

† Ib. Evans, 251.

‡ Evans, 353. Tovey's Colston, 122.

the promoters of the Coalbrookdale Company. Before we touch upon his deeds of charity we will speak of the origin in Bristol of the great hardware company with which he came subsequently into connection.

Abraham Darby, a Quaker, with three others of the same persuasion, who provided the requisite capital, set up works at Baptist Mills in the neighbourhood of Bristol, where he carried on the business of brass and iron founder. The art of casting had at this time (about 1700) made such small progress in England that cast iron pots, which formed the principal cooking utensils of the working class, were imported from abroad. Darby, in his efforts to improve the home manufacture of these articles, made, like others who had preceded him, the first moulds of clay, but they cracked and burst, and one trial after another failed. With a view to ascertain the successful method of casting "Hilton ware," as it was then called, he went over to Holland whence it was imported, and after diligent inquiry found that the whole secret consisted in its being cast in fine dry sand. Returning to Bristol with some skilful Dutch workmen, he commenced the new manufacture. The work was first carried on with great secrecy lest other manufacturers should copy the art, and the precaution was taken of stopping the key holes of the door while the casting was in progress.* The recital of the patent, remarks Mr. Smiles, is curious, as showing the backward state of iron founding at that time. It sets forth "that whereas our trusty and well-beloved Abraham Darby, of our city of Bristol, smith, hath by his petition humbly represented to us, that by his study, industry, and expense, he hath found out and brought to perfection a new way of casting iron-bellied pots, and other iron-bellied ware in sand only, without loam or clay, by which such iron pots and other ware may be cast fine and with more ease and expedition; and may be afforded cheaper than they can be by the way commonly used; and in regard to their cheapness may be of great advantage to the poor of this our kingdom,

* Smiles, *Industrial Biog.* 81.

who for the most part use such ware, and in all probability will prevent the merchants of England going to foreign markets for such ware, from whence great quantities are imported, and likewise may in time supply other markets with that manufacture of our dominions, &c., * * grants the said Abraham Darby the full power and sole privilege to make and sell such pots and ware for and during the term of fourteen years thence ensuing.”*

Darby's arrangements for carrying on the manufacture upon a large scale did not meet with the approbation of his partners. He therefore abandoned the Bristol firm, and in the year 1709 removed to Coalbrookdale in Shropshire, where he commenced the trade on his own account, and thus laid the foundation of the vast foundry for which that place is yet famous. Richard Reynolds who succeeded Darby's son in the management of the works was born in Bristol in 1735. During the later years of his life, while living at Bristol, he had four almoners constantly employed, finding out cases of distress, relieving them, and presenting their accounts to him weekly, with details of the cases relieved.† He sent £20,000 to London, to be distributed during the distress of 1795, and £500 anonymously, besides an acknowledged sum to relieve distress in Germany. Many other of his good deeds might be mentioned, but as his life has been published in a separate volume, our having here simply re-called his memory may suffice. “The Reynold's Commemoration Society,” is one of the benevolent institutions of Bristol.

Another notable Quaker who flourished in Bristol contemporaneously with Reynolds, was Richard Champion, who has several claims for not being altogether forgotten. One of these claims is indeed of a negative character. It was by his ruthless instigation the historical High Cross that had been transferred from the centre of the city to College Green, was removed from the latter place to be stowed as lumber until finally sold by the presumptuous Dean Cutts

* Smiles, Industrial Biog., 82. † Smiles, 97.

Barton. A better reason for his memory being kept alive is the existence of many valuable pieces of Bristol porcelain of which he was the manufacturer. Champion purchased the patent for making this now coveted ware from Joseph Cookworthy, and in 1768 he established porcelain works at Castle Green, under the firm of Cookworthy and Co. After purchasing Cookworthy's share in 1773 he began to enlarge the Castle Green works, and applied to the House of Commons for the prolongation of the patent granted to his former partner. The influence he brought to bear on his application was so considerable that George III. purposely delayed the prorogation of Parliament in order that his appeal might have effect. Champion having carried on the works at Bristol with apparently not much commercial success during a course of thirteen years, from 1768 to 1781, sold his patent to a company of Staffordshire potters. In 1782 he was appointed Deputy-Paymaster to the Forces under Burke, and died in South Carolina in 1791.

Though Bristol china is now more eagerly sought after than any other porcelain, it would appear from a local advertisement in 1772 that its earlier reputation was very small. "The manufactory," it is remarked, "is not at present sufficiently known," and an "N.B." is added to the effect that "there is some of the old china which will be sold very cheap." In contrast to this cheapness three fine vases described as of great rarity and extreme beauty, were exhibited within the last year or two at the Burlington Fine Arts Club, and valued at above £1000. An oval plaque in biscuit, with the arms of Burke and Nugent in relief, surrounded by a wreath of flowers of the most exquisite workmanship, was sold by Southeby in 1871 for 99 guineas; at the same time a pair of vases fetched 230 guineas.* Some pieces of the most elaborately decorated tea service known, each piece having a rich arabesque gold border, enclosing spaces of Byzantine pattern work, &c., which formed part of a complete service presented

* *Bristol Times and Mirror*, April 25, 1871

by Mr. and Mrs. Champion to the wife of Edmund Burke on his being returned member for Bristol, have realized thrice the value of their weight in gold.* Mr. Burke's country residence was at Beaconsfield, the estate that gave title to the late Mrs. Disraeli. When Mr. Disraeli was the guest of Mr. Romaine Callender, on the occasion of the Conservative demonstration at Manchester, the teapot used was that of the very set of china just adverted to, and cost Mr. Callender £220, the like cup and saucer placed before the present Earl of Beaconsfield at the tea table having cost the same owner £90.† The high prices offered for Champion's porcelain have set forgers to work; and the envied crossmark has been put on a great many pieces of Oriental china bearing some resemblance to the Bristol article.‡

Two or three letters in Burke's published correspondence are concerning a mysterious attempt to reduce the city and the shipping to ashes, the agency proving to be that of one man, John Aitken, otherwise known as John the Painter. Early on a morning in January 1777, the *Savannah* a vessel bound for Jamaica was seen to be in flames. On board the *Fame*, another ship lying near, a quantity of combustible substance was soon after discovered. A like attempt was intercepted on board the *Hibernia*. Then a druggist's warehouse in a lane in Corn Street was found broken open, and combustibles therein placed with a match attached, which had been ignited but had gone out. Soon after six warehouses were burnt down in Bell Lane, together with the Bell Tavern in Broad Street. Directly after, a fire burst out in three different places of the city at the same time, and the train of inflammable materials had been so subtilely laid, that had it not been speedily discovered, and the communication severed, the flames would have extended and caused infinite destruction of property. It was at first thought that an organised conspiracy of American origin was in

* *Sat. Rev.*, Nov. 15, 1873.

† *Sat. Rev.*—*ib.*

‡ Owen's Ceramic Art.

operation, and a reward of £1000 by Government, and £500 by the city, was offered for the detection of the conspirators. It was not long before the incendiarism was found to be centred in one villain, by the apprehension through the vigilance of Sir John Fielding, of John the Painter. This miscreant confided to a pretended friend who had been purposely employed to worm out his secret, that he had been encouraged by one Silas Deane to set fire to the English shipping, on behalf of America. His guilt being clearly evidenced he was condemned to death, and hung at Portsmouth, the scene of other of his incendiary exploits.*

A tragedy of another character was the Bristol Bridge riot of 1793. This outbreak was caused by the maintenance of a toll that according to popular impression was to cease on the 29th Sept. The Commissioners, asserting that the expenditure was not yet met, leased out the tolls for another year. The populace thereupon assembled in refractory mood, broke down the gates and sacked the toll houses. A party of about 50 of the Hereford militia, headed by Col. Lord Bateman, proceeded towards the spot. After an ineffectual attempt to induce a quiet dispersion the soldiers fired; twelve persons were killed on the spot, and 33 were carried wounded to the Infirmary, besides many to their own houses. "It is not possible to say how many died on the whole, probably not fewer than forty."†

These riots were a mere local accident, and without the broad principle of the "Bristol Revolution" of 1831, as it has been magniloquently termed, which affected to have a political character for its basis. No doubt the popular feeling against the Tories for their opposition to the Reform Bill acted as the first incentive to the latter outbreak, or rather outrage. But the brutal passions of the mob are unhappily stronger than

* Annual Register, 1777. Gent.'s Mag., 1777. Horace Walpole's Last Journals. II., 100. Burke's Correspondence.

† MS additions to Evans, 300.

their patriotic feelings, and when these passions, wildly broken loose, were suffered to act uncurbed by the power of external authority, the cry of "Reform" was speedily changed to the howl of "Havoc," and the dogs of war were instantly slipped against the rights of property. The most disastrous of all weakness is the weak administration of civil law, and owing to the temporary paralysis, or possibly humane forbearance, of both civil and military dictatorship, an important section of the city was laid in ashes by the dregs of the populace. The rabble would not have proved wolves, had their proper rulers not seemed sheep. Had magisterial action been suspended thirty days instead of only during three, all Bristol would have been burnt to the ground. What remained of half of one of the most spacious quadrangles of houses in Europe was a heap of smouldering and dangerous ruins. While women and helpless children, naked, homeless, and terrified, were flying from the dreadful spot, where they had so lately enjoyed their own fire sides; and while lawless ruffians, madly drunk with the choice wines they had stolen from the richly stocked cellarage of the Mansion House, were continuing to set fire to dwelling after dwelling, the military were restrained from charging the mob, and their commander was shaking hands with the rioters in the vain hope to conciliate and subdue them by the "power of kindness."

Forty-one spacious houses in Queen Square were consumed, besides four toll houses, the Bridewell, Gaol, and Lawford's Gate prison, and the Bishop's Palace. The reflection of the fires on the horizon was seen at the distance of forty miles from the city, and in some places it was sufficiently light at a distance of seven miles to pick up a pin upon the ground.

The delirium of destruction lasted from Saturday to Monday morning, when at three o'clock the Mayor sent peremptory request to the chief officer of the soldiers to quell the riots at any cost. The Fourteenth Dragoons thereupon spread across Queen Square the focus of the devilish revels, and

picked out the rioters, about 10 or 12 of whom were cut down round the statue of King William III. The troops followed the flying mob over the town. In Marsh Street a man who attempted to seize the bridle of one of the dragoons had his head completely severed from his shoulders, and in Castle Street likewise, where the skirmishing was hot, a powerful man who had been actively cheering on the rioters, was singled out by a private, who with a back-handed blow cut off his head. Those who had still heads to save endeavoured to save them by shrinking from the streets into the lanes and passages where were their houses. There was no further temporizing on the part of the military or the civic authorities, and the Bristol Riots were stayed.

It is impossible to say how many perished in all during the "Reign of Terror." The list of killed and wounded as subsequently made out was, killed 12, wounded 96; this list, however, included only those who were taken to the hospitals, those killed and burnt while engaged in plundering the houses being unascertained. From time to time heads without bodies, trunks without members, and fragments of limbs were exposed to public gaze.

Four of the rioters were hanged, and the unfortunate Col. Brereton committed suicide.*

The amount of compensation for damages, fixed by the Parliamentary Commissioners and assessed on the citizens, amounted to £68,208 1s. 6d.

Leaving this disgraceful epoch of Bristol history we will touch upon some points of the material improvements of the present century, as contained chiefly in the works of the civil engineer.

The canal known as the New Cut, a channel nearly three miles long, with the two capacious basins, the Cumberland and the Bathurst, was commenced in 1804, and completed in 1809. The floating dock

* Trial of Chas. Pinney. Curiosities of Bristol. Trial of the Rioters. Felix Farley's Journal. United Service Journal. Thornbury's Old Stories Retold.

covers an area of 82 acres, and the entire work cost £600,000.* Steam communication was established between Bristol and Ireland as early as 1826; and to Bristol belongs the honour of being the first port in the Kingdom that established a regular steam communication with the United States, the first voyage having been performed by the *Great Western* steamship in 1838. This vessel was built at Bristol at a cost of £63,000, and launched July 19, 1837. The *Great Britain* and the ill-fated *Demerara* were also cradled here, the former costing £120,000.†

Although the *Great Western* was the first steam vessel that made regular voyages between Europe and America, the first attempt to use steam in the direct voyage across the Atlantic was made by the *Savannah*, an American ship of 300 tons burden, and built at New York. She made only two voyages to and from Europe. In the first of these she left the port of Savannah on May 25th, and anchored at Liverpool on June 20th, 1819.‡

The removal of these large vessels from Bristol checked the Atlantic steam trade for many years, the declension in exports, from the year 1839 to 1846, showing a diminution in value from £339,728 to £150,883.§ The revival of the Great Western Steamship Company in 1871, has caused a fresh development of Trans-Atlantic commerce. On July 2nd, of that year the *Arragon*, a fine steamer 245 feet long and 1317 tons was sent out. Since then Messrs. Whitwill & Son, have established a line of 4 or 5 powerful steamers in the American trade, and the importation direct of fresh beef and mutton which first arrived in April 1877, is an important item in the increased traffic.¶

The movement which resulted in Bristol being made in 1848 a free port, was caused by the serious decline of the maritime trade owing to the high dock dues. The foreign imports from 1838 to 1847 were only 892,647

* Will. Webster, Cassell's Technical Educator, iv., 46. † *Ib.*

‡ Brunel's Life of Brunel, 232. § Reid and Hicks, Port of Bristol, 73. ¶ *Ib.*, 78.

tons, as compared with 2,415,366 tons from 1858 to 1867, thus showing the great benefit derived to the port through release from toll. At the same time the rateable value of property in the city sprung from £406,206 in 1841 to £771,343 in 1876. Also, the increase of population between 1841 and 1851 was equal to 9 per cent., while between 1861 and 1871 the advance was 18·46 per cent.*

The Port and Channel Dock was opened Feb. 24th, 1877, and its connection with Bristol by Railway will no doubt encourage much additional shipping to the convenient harbourage it affords. The length of the dock is 1400 feet, width 500 feet; depth 30 feet; area 16 acres; length of lock 450 feet; width 85 feet; depth of water over lower gate cills at high equinoctial spring 44 feet. Cost £500,000.†

The Railway from Bristol to Portishead was opened in April 1867; and docks at that place are now in process of construction. The new works comprise a lock 400 feet long and 65 feet wide; and a floating dock of 20 acres area. The Portishead Company succeeded in obtaining from the Corporation a contribution of £100,000 on their consenting to the city authorities being represented on the directorate.

By the Municipal Corporations' Reform Act of 1835, Bristol, in conformity with other boroughs, on Nov. 1st. in every year, elects, by the citizens whose names are on the Burgess Roll, a certain number of persons to act as a Town Council, who continue in office for three years; one third of the whole of whom retire on the 1st of November in each year, but are eligible for re-election. The Town Council, on 9th of November in each year, elect one of their body to be mayor for the ensuing year; also every third year on the same day they choose a third of the elected councillors as aldermen, who continue in office six years, a half being elected every three years. The Council also elect a High Sheriff either from their own body or from the public generally.

* Reid and Hicks, Port of Bristol, p. 86.

Bristol Mercury, Feb. 24th, 1877. † Bristol Mercury, ib.

By the same act (5 and 6 Will. IV.) the municipal boundaries of Bristol were made to include the adjoining parishes of Clifton, the out-parishes of St. James and St. Paul and St. Philip and St. Jacob, with parts of the parishes of Bedminster and Westbury-on-Trym, the whole area representing a circuit of about 15 miles. There are ten wards, which jointly return 48 members to council, who themselves elect 16 aldermen, making altogether 64 members.

The magistracy of the city consists of 30 acting Justices of the Peace, who are appointed by the Lord Chancellor on recommendation by representative citizens, the mayor for the time being acting as chief magistrate.*

Quantum lenta solent inter viburna cypressi, "like shrubs when lofty cypresses are near," the (one time) second city of England now stands, not only in relation to the first, but to several modern towns that have outstripped her in magnitude of population and in material development; but even our rapid sketch is enough to show that in the great cause of national advancement Bristol has represented no unworthy part. We have seen that to her learned son Grocyn English scholarship owes the introduction of the stately language of Homer, which until his time was unknown in the schools. To Sebastian Cabot, another native, is due the fact that English is the tongue spoken on the great North American continent. In William Worcester we have the first home traveller, a sort of English Pausanias, who walked about the walls, studied the castles, abbeys, and churches, and almost counted the stones in the streets of the old historical land of his birth, and has left us records of what he saw. To him we owe the most complete nomenclature of mediæval architecture, which valuable vocabulary has been edited by Prof. Willis. The princes of Bristol were merchants. We may add that the merchants of Bristol were princes, and we need only point to such noble monuments of the aristocracy of wealth as Redcliff Church and St. Stephen's tower,

* Henry Naish Esq., Bristol and its Environs, 265.

the works of her great traders, Canynge and Shipward. We have touched upon her spirit for colonization abroad; her deeds of charity within the city; her schools, hospitals, and almshouses are too numerous to be mentioned: but Colston, Whitson, and Reynolds, belong to the best type of philanthropists. A Bristol ship brought home the hero of Juan Fernandez, and De Foe's romance was the result. By the encouragement afforded by a Bristol bookseller, J. Cottle, the first literary efforts of Wordsworth, Southey, and Coleridge were given to the world, whose incipient works were published here. Chatterton was indeed a "marvellous boy," and had he not "perished in his pride" might have proved a still more marvellous man. In Edmund Burke, Bristol was represented by perhaps the grandest statesman of modern days. To eminent names we might add those of such native artists as Sir Thomas Lawrence, Bird, and W. J. Müller, the biography of the latter of whom has just appeared in a sumptuous volume.

Though Bristol has always been a city of churches, it has never been properly an ecclesiastical town, such for example as Glastonbury or Wells. In these and kindred boroughs the central power was vested in the spiritual lord, but in Bristol there was no sovereign Abbot or Bishop, and the churches and monasteries, having no joint corporate jurisdiction, were individually too weak to usurp the force of the secular arm. After Bristol, therefore ceased to be a barony and appanage to the crown, it became self-dependent, self-contained, and self-governed. As a seaport and commercial city it has flourished in consequence, rather than in spite of the departure or absence of the temporal or spiritual baron; and has shown the might of labour and commerce by extending its limits ten times beyond its original compass in Saxon times.*

* Its original site was between St. Nicholas Church, south; St. John's north; St. Peter's east; and Stuckey's Bank west. These points give the extent of the first walled Saxon town. E. W. Godwin, *Som. Arch. Proc.*, vol. 14, p. 24.



Architectural Antiquities.

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SYNOPSIS.

ANGLO-NORMAN.—West Front, Clerestory, and massive Nave of St. James's Priory Church; Tower of St. Peter's Church; two western bays of All Saints' Church; Font in St. Philip's Church; Great Gateway, Lower Gateway, Chapter Room, and other remains of Fitzharding's Abbey of St. Austin, now the Cathedral. *Domestic*—Portions of the present Law Library in the New Assize Courts.

EARLY ENGLISH.—Inner North Porch of Redcliff Church; Tower of St. Philip's Church; Chapel of the Priory of St. Mark; double Gateway with intervening. Arcade of St. Bartholomew's Priory, Christmas Street; Elder Lady Chapel &c., at the Cathedral; Part of the Dominican Friary, Merchant Street; Vaulted Chamber of the Castle in Tower Street; Arch of the Old Town Gate, called Blynd Gate, at the end of John Street; Hermitage, St. John's Lane, Redcliff Hill.

DECORATED WORK.—Chancel and North Chapel of Temple Church; Portion of the Dominican Priory, Merchant Street; Portion of the Priory Church of S. Mark; Chancel, &c., of Cathedral; Hexagonal North Porch, &c., of St. Mary Redcliff. *Domestic*—Groined Vault, No. 22, High Street; some Timber construction, opposite S. Peter's Church.

PERPENDICULAR WORK UP TO THE 16TH CENTURY.—St. Nicholas Crypt; St. John's Church, Crypt, and Gate; chief Part of All Saints' Church; St. Werburgh's Tower and part of Church; St. Mary-le-Port Church; Tower of St. Thomas' Church; Portions of St. Philip's Church; Tower, St. James' Church; Main Structure of St. Peter's Church; Tower of St. Stephen, and great part of the Church; whole of St. Augustine's Church; some part of the Abbey of St. Augustine and Priory of

S. Mark ; Nave, Aisles, and Tower of Holy Cross or Temple Church ; Chapel of Three Kings, top of Christmas Steps : nearly the whole of St. Mary Redcliff Church. *Domestic*— Vaulted apartment of Castle, Tower Street ; Grand Window of Colston's house, incorporated with New Assize Courts ; portions of Old Swan Inn, Mary-le-port Street ; Gateway of Guard-house Passage, Wine Street ; Canynge's house, Redcliff Street ; Norton's house, St. Peter's Churchyard ; Barstaple' Almshouse, Old Market Street ; Calendar' house, south west angle of All Saints' Church.

THE CATHEDRAL.

THE Abbey of St. Augustine Black Canons, the Church of which now forms the Cathedral, was founded in A.D. 1142 by Robert Fitzharding, a burgess of Bristol, and progenitor of the noble family of Berkeley. At the period of its erection Prince Henry, afterwards King Henry II., was receiving his education in Bristol, and the inscription over the great gateway denotes his interest in the work while in procedure. This interesting fact is confirmed by an *inspeximus* made by Edward II. of the charter of Henry II., the latter therein speaking of the Abbey of S. Augustine as "that which from his early boyhood he had aided and encouraged by benefactions."

The Church was consecrated on Easter Day, 1148, in the presence of the Bishops of Worcester, Exeter, Llandaff, and St. Asaph.

Entering a debased doorway (the work of Abbot Somerset 1526-30) at the north end of the transept we find immediately to the left the "Elder Lady Chapel" just adverted to, This is so called to distinguish it from another and later chapel to the Virgin Mary at the south east end of the church, to which

the Lady altar was removed after the rebuilding of the choir. This chapel is pure early English, and from certain indications supplied by the bold sections of the mouldings, Mr. Godwin attributes its erection to John the third Abbot who ruled the monastery from A.D. 1196 to 1215. In each of the four bays that divide the chapel is a triplet window of the usual lancet form. The east window and wall are Early Decorated, and together with the groined roof are assigned to Abbot Dodington, who died in 1294. The grotesque character and forcible execution of the sculpture in this chapel deserve attention, and generally obtain it.

The choir consists of five bays, beyond which is the chancel of two bays. The whole of this work was begun and nearly completed by Abbot Knowle, between 1306 and 1332, and belongs to the Early or Geometrical Decorated period. By the obviously symbolical arrangement of the tracery of the great East window as well as by the three compartments of the reredos beneath, we are reminded of the dedication of the church to the Holy Trinity. The rich hued glass, "like an inestimable treasury of precious stones, and with all its brilliancy as soft as rose leaves,"* is among the best in England. It dates, according to Mr. Winston, from about the year 1320, but when restored in 1847 much modern glass was inserted; the old work is, however, discernible from the new by the difference of tone. The window represents a stem of Jesse. The lower lights contain figures of the Virgin and Infant Jesus, as well as prophets and kings. In the three upright lights above are the crucified Saviour, the Virgin Mary, and St. John the Evangelist. The four side windows of the chancel contain glass of the same date and character as that of the east window. These have been restored and re-arranged by Bell of Bristol.* The enamelled windows on the east of the north choir aisle are traditionally said to have been presented to the Cathedral by Nell Gwynne. The

* Hawthorne's Eng. Note Books, ii., 220.

tradition is at least as old as Horace Walpole, who in mentioning his visit to this church in 1776, without hesitation declares them to be her gift. The beautiful stone altar screen beneath the east window is of the florid pointed style of the 15th century. It consists of three ogee arches with a niche between each. The whole work was restored in 1840, when the central arch was constructed, the original having been superseded by a wooden altar screen. The modern altar table is of carved wood. The sedilia, four in number, are modern, but copies of the ancient,* and with their rich canopies of leafage supported by red serpentine shafts, are of great beauty.

The tower, 127 feet in height, is a rich specimen of Perpendicular design, and was the work of Abbot Newland (1481-1515), or of his successor Ellyot (1515-1526). Both the tower and the transept occupy the exact site of the same members of the Norman Church, much of the original walls of the transept being contained in the present structure. The tracery of the window in the north end of the transept was inserted in 1704. The running line of masonry below the early English jambs of this window is Norman. At the north east angle of the same end of the transept, above the Elder Lady Chapel, is an Early English pinnacle which is a "good example of a date anterior to the general adoption of the pinnacle in construction."

In the south arm of the transept is a round-headed gable window and other features of Norman date. In the western wall near the present cloister entrance to the Cathedral is a blocked up doorway that formed the temporary entrance to the original church (A.D. 1148). Inside the transept a Norman corbel may be seen supporting the later capital of the Perpendicular vaulting. The windows have Perpendicular glazing c. 1481.† A staircase leads from this wing to what was formerly the Dormitory. On the left, at the head of the time-worn steps, is the Bishop's Court Room, where many a

* Murray's Cathedrals, 151.

† Godwin, 44; Munay, 142; Walcot, 42.

culprit has been made to condone some offence against morals by doing penance in a white sheet before the congregation in the body of the Cathedral.

The arch opening to the south choir aisle is Decorated (1332-1341) as is that of the north aisle of the choir, but the latter is later in character (1481-1515) and formed part of Abbot Newland's work, who also constructed the groined roof of the north transept, and the arches now closed, which were intended to open to the nave aisle. The vaulting of the south transept is assigned to Abbot Ellyot (1515-1526).*

The lower part of the tower piers, according to Mr. Godwin, is in fact Norman. The piers he considers to be substantially Norman, but cut away to their present form.

The Berkeley Chapel attached to the east end of the south aisle was founded in 1348 by Thomas Berkeley for the soul of his wife, who died in 1337, the shields of whose family are carved over the entrance. One of the ogee niches in the vestibule to this chapel has a chimney which was used in pre-Reformation days for baking the sacramental wafer. The chapel and vestibule are Decorated in style. Two of the windows are embellished with ball flowers. The Newton Chapel at the west end of the south aisle is like-wise Decorated, and is the reputed work of Abbot Snow (1332-1341).

The general effect of the interior of the church is that of breadth rather than height, but there is nevertheless a fine sense of proportion in the relations of parts. The clustered piers have triple shafts, from the graceful leafage of the capitals of which springs the ground vaulting of both the choir and aisles, but the groining of the chancel springs from shafts attached to the walls.

The chief speciality of the church is the uniform height of the vaulting, the central and the two side aisles, though different in construction, being at their highest points exactly at the same elevation from the

* Murray, 143.

ground, a peculiarity it is said not to be elsewhere observed.

The Chapter House with its pillared vestibule exhibits some most interesting Norman work of advanced or transition date. The arches of the latter spring from clustered columns with cushioned capitals, and are studded with nail-head ornaments. The room is singularly enriched with zigzag, trellis and other mouldings on the wall arcades and groined ribs of the vaulting. In the year 1831, on taking up the flooring, twelve stone coffins were discovered, supposed to contain the remains of the same number of Abbots. In the vestry is a rudely sculptured Norman slab that formed the cover to one of these coffins. At the south-west corner of the cloisters is a fine Early English doorway that communicated with the Refectory.

In Lower College Green is to be seen the ancient archway to the Abbot's lodgings. This is earlier in date, and less ornate in construction, than the grand gateway of the abbey above. The superstructure of the arch is assigned to Abbots Newland or Nailheart, and Ellyot (1481—1526) whose statues occupy two of the niches on the southern side, their arms being beneath. On the northern side are statues of Henry II. and Robert Fitzharding. The inscription over the crown of the arch on this side is as follows, "*Rex Henricus secundus et Dominus Robertus filius Hardingi filii Regis Daciæ hujus monasterii primii fundatores extiterunt.*" (King Henry II. and Robert son of Harding, who was a son of the King of Denmark, were the first founders of this monastery). The picturesque character of this fine gateway has been impaired by the removal of the ancient bay windows, and the substitution of the present miserable sashes.

The principal dimensions of the Cathedral are:—entire length of the old structure 174 feet, width 68 feet, height 51 feet, tower 127 feet high. The new nave is 117 feet in length.

It is one of the six new Cathedrals constituted by

Henry VIII. out of the revenues of the dissolved religious houses. The foundation charter is dated June 4th, 1542. The Bishop and Canons took possession on 14th August, and "were worthily received"*. In 1836 Bristol and Gloucester were united in one diocese. The Cathedral underwent an extensive restoration in 1861, at a cost of £12,000.

MONUMENTS.

Berkeley Tombs.—The following supplies a complete list as far can be ascertained, of members of the noble family of Berkeley interred within these sacred walls.

The earliest was Robert Fitzharding, the founder of the monastery, at whose funeral the church was hung with black, appearing like a huge hearse. He died in the year 1170, and lies with Eva, his wife, under a flat stone at the entrance to the choir;—not in the great tomb adjoining the Elder Lady Chapel, as erroneously affirmed by the modern inscription affixed to that monument.

Robert de Berkeley, eldest son of Maurice I. and grand-son of Robert Fitzharding, is buried in the north aisle, "over against the high altar, in a monk's cowl.†" He was one of the barons who rebelled against King John, for which, and repeated acts of disloyalty, he was excommunicated by Innocent III., and his castle of Berkeley and all his lands confiscated, and assigned for the maintenance of Bristol castle. These however were restored to the family on the accession of Henry III. He died in 1219.

The next of the same family interred here is Thomas, brother and heir of the above Robert. His death occurred in 1243, and he is buried in the south aisle, that is, in the Decorated recess situated in the third bay from the east.‡

Maurice, his son and heir, accompanied his father in

* MS. Calendar in Bristol Museum and Library.

† Collins' Peerage, III. 566, Dugd. I. 352.

‡ Collins, iii. 566.

the wars of France. He had three sons, of whom the eldest was killed at a joust held at Kenilworth in 1277, whereto 100 well armed knights proceeded with "as many ladies going before singing joyful songs." This Maurice is usually said to be buried in the south aisle in the fourth recess from the east, but both Dugdale and Collins, who quote the "Great Cartulary" deposited in Berkeley castle, assert him to be buried in the north aisle.

Under an arch between the vestry and the south aisle is an altar tomb in memory of the second Thomas Lord Berkeley, son of Maurice, the second of that name, and great-grand-son of Robert Fitzharding. At the outbreak of the barons' wars he sided with Henry III., and was with him at the siege of Kenilworth. "He was much skilled in running at the ring, with other hastilude or spear plays, and his elder years were exercised at jousts and tournaments." He found sterner occupation however at the battle of Bannockburn, where he was taken prisoner. His death happened in 1321. He was twice married, and with him are here sepultured his successive wives. The shields annexed are charged with coats of the Berkeley, Ferrers, and de Quincey families, the two latter being the families to whom his wives were related.

Maurice, fourth Lord Berkeley of that name, lies with Elizabeth, his wife, within the great tomb situated between the choir and Elder Lady chapel, and which on the erroneous authority of the modern inscription is assigned to Robert Fitzharding. This Maurice was a son of the third Thomas Lord Berkeley, who was concerned in the death of Edward II. He was married at the premature age of eight years to Elizabeth, daughter of Hugh Despenser. At the battle of Poitiers he received wounds from which he never recovered. He died in 1368. With him, in this tomb is also buried his mother Margaret.

Sir James, the second son of the fourth Maurice, died in 1404, and is buried in his father's tomb, being as is stated, that against the Lady chapel under the arch.

The last baron Berkeley here interred, was Thomas, the fifth of his name. He figured at the battle of Flodden in 1513. His death took place in 1532, and by the ordination of his will, he was first buried at Mangotsfield, and shortly after removed to the Abbey at Bristol, and buried near Eleanor his first wife. The identity of his tomb is uncertain, but he probably lies within one of the ornamental recesses that are without effigies, in the north aisle.

The carved canopies adverted to are very peculiar and beautiful. One of these, that on the north side of the extreme end of the chancel, contains the effigy of Abbot Knowle, the refounder of the church. He died in 1332.

Many monuments of prelates are distributed about the church. One exhibits an emaciated effigy, commemorative of Paul Bush, the first Bishop. Another of more interest is that to the memory of Bishop Butler, author of the "Analogy." Of other remarkable memorials may be mentioned that to the wife of the poet Mason, with its famous poetical inscription, "Take holy earth, all that my soul holds dear." Also the carved mural monument by Bacon, to Mrs. Draper, the Eliza of Sterne. Lady Hesketh, the friend of the poet Cowper, is here buried, in the southern transept, at the entrance to the aisle. A monument by Chantrey, to Dr. Crawford, and another to Mrs. Elwyn may likewise be observed.

Of English Sovereigns who have visited St. Augustine's Abbey or Cathedral, can be mentioned Edward I. in 1284, Edward IV. in 1474, Henry VII. in 1486, Queen Elizabeth in 1574, Anne of Denmark, Queen of James I. in 1613, and Charles I. in 1643, who was accompanied by the heir apparent, afterwards Charles II. Archbishop Cranmer preached within these walls in 1534.

After an interruption of four centuries, this beautiful church is once more possessed of a nave, it being hitherto the only Cathedral in the kingdom deficient of that important architectural member. The total

amount of subscriptions received and promised towards this grand work which is now approaching completion, is about £41,200.

ST. MARK'S CHURCH.

St. Mark's, or the Mayor's Chapel, was originally the church of the Hospital of Bon-hommes, of which order there were only two other houses in England. St. Mark's Hospital was founded by Robert de Berkeley, the second Lord of Berkeley, and finished by Maurice de Gaunt, his son, who died in 1230.

The hospital was placed under the control of the Canons of St. Augustine's Monastery, and was ordained for the maintenance of a chaplain, and the daily relief of 100 poor; but twelve scholars were afterwards admitted on the foundation. These wore a red shield on their habit during the year of probation, to which a white cross was afterwards added. The house was dissolved in 1534, and in 1540 the estate was granted from the Crown to the Mayor and Burgesses of Bristol for public uses.

The chapel was restored in 1829. It lies nearly north and south, instead of the usual position. The general effect of the interior is very impressive. The emblazoned roof, rich fretwork stalls of dark oak, carved tabernacles, the ancient tombs with their sculptured canopies, the sombre illumination derived from the traceried windows glowing with images of saints and martyrs, fill the mind with a kind of æsthetic awe and devotion, not unmixed with a pleasing melancholy.

The building is of mixed architecture. On the north and south sides is a range of grotesque corbels of Early English character, and some of the windows are of the same style, but somewhat advanced. The great west window is a combination of the Decorated and Perpendicular styles. The head is a wheel of twelve spokes, which, together with the rest of the tracery, is modern, but a reproduction of the old work. In the

* Traditions and Customs of Cathedrals, p. 76.

side aisle is a pure Decorated window, enriched with ball flower ornament. The tower was finished in 1489. The east end of the church, with its fine altar piece of late Perpendicular niches and tabernacles, is asserted to have been reconstructed by Miles Salley, Bishop of Llandaff, whose tomb is conspicuous on the south side of the altar. He died about 1516. On the right side of the altar are four fine sedilia, and in the centre is a painting of the "Dead Christ," by King, of Clifton.

The greater part of the glass in the chapel was, says Mr. Winston, "I believe brought from Mr. Beckford's house at Fonthill." That of St. Thomas-a-Becket, in the south aisle, was purchased thence, having previously cost the owner 280 guineas.

The vestry, with its roof of fan tracery, and walls encrusted with niches, was formerly a chauntry of the Poyntz family, of Iron Acton. It dates from 1510 to 1520, and is a fine specimen of Perpendicular.

In the north-west corner of the dim side aisle is a hagioscope.

One of the oldest monuments in the church is that to Sir Henry Gaunt, the first master of the Hospital, whose much worn effigy is recumbent on a panelled tomb, in the south aisle, bearing the date 1268. The tomb, however, is of later date than the figure.

A low altar tomb, with the initials J. C. is said by Barrett, who is followed by Pryce and others, to be to John Carr, one of the founders of Queen Elizabeth's Hospital. This, however, is a mistake, for he was buried at St. Werburgh's, as the MS. records of that church show.

The two cross-legged effigies in chain mail, now in the east chapel of the same aisle, are believed to represent Maurice de Gaunt and Robert de Gournay, the founders of the hospital. The first of these however, was buried at the Blackfriars, in Rosemary Street. Other memorials are an Elizabethan monument to William Birde, died 1590; a recumbent effigy in plate armour to Sir Richard Berkeley, died 1604; a curious statue of a youth kneeling on one knee, &c.

Under a richly-carved canopy, on the north side of the chancel, is a finely sculptured figure of Miles Salley, Bishop of Llandaff, who died 1516; and adjoining is an altar tomb, with effigies of Sir Thomas Berkeley, of Stoke Gifford, and Catherine, his wife. He died in 1360, but the tomb belongs to the early part of the 15th century.

At the College Green entrance the visitor passes over the remains of Capt. Tho. Bedloe, of the "Popish Plot" notoriety. He died in 1681.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S THE LESS.

This church was originally built by the canons of the adjacent monastery, and was intended as a chapel for the neighbouring inhabitants. The earliest mention is in A.D. 1240, but the present edifice dates from 1480. During the latter half of the last century it underwent alterations, which included an elongation of the aisles.

The whole of the church, except modern pinnacles and other restorations is of the Perpendicular style. The tower is of three stages, and of pleasing design.

There is a slab to the memory of Sir Hugh Owen, Bart., of Pembrokehire, who, it is said, was the last to sign the requisition to Charles II., having travelled to London for that purpose.* A tablet records the memory of Robert Cecil, son of the Hon. Robert Cecil, brother to the late James, Earl of Salisbury, who died Jan. 30th, 1707.

In the register there is an entry of the baptism (March 20th, 1687) of a daughter of Bishop Trelawny, one of the famous "seven," by Dr. Thomas Ken, Bishop of Bath and Wells, another of the seven, who is not less favorably known as the author of the "Morning and Evening hymns."

The church has just (March 1877) been restored under the superintendence of Messrs. Foster and Wood.

In the churchyard may be seen the inscribed tomb of Mrs. Marianne Smith, who was poisoned by the fiendish Mrs. Burdock.

* Bristol Times and Mirror, March 1877.

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH.

The body of the present church was built, between 1450 and 1490, at the joint expence of the parishioners and the Abbot of Glastonbury, to the latter of whom the living belonged. The tower was erected by the sole munificence of John Shipward, a wealthy merchant, who was Mayor of Bristol in 1455. It is 133 feet in height, and is generally allowed to be one of the handsomest parish towers in England.

The nave and chancel in the interior are divided on each side, from the north and south aisles, by seven uniform and finely proportioned moulded arches, supported by clustered columns, having capitals embellished with demi-angels holding unfolded scrolls. The roof is of oak, and strongly resembles that of the Mayor's Chapel, being flat, and divided into square compartments by deep moulded ribs, with rosettes at the intersections.

The whole of the windows of the clerestory and aisles contain impoverished Perpendicular tracery, and are modern, with the exception of two at the western end of the south aisle, which are far superior in character. The roof of the south porch is filled with elaborate fan tracery, and there is some florid embellishment to the exterior.

Recessed in the south wall is an elaborately sculptured tomb, supporting a male and a female figure. This has been suggested to belong to John Shipward, but its style, Decorated English, indicates an earlier date. There being no inscription, it is impossible to tell whom this monument commemorates. There is a detached effigy, also of uncertain identity, lying at the base of one of the western pillars of the south aisle.

There was formerly a chauntry in this church to Edward Blanket, who, as well as two of his brothers, was largely engaged in the woollen trade in Bristol, and is said to have first introduced into England the manufacture of the coarse and comfortable woollen cloth now so well known by their name. Mr. Stiles, how-

ever, thinks that it is more likely that the blanket gave its name to the brothers. At the restoration of the church in 1876, by Mr. C. F. Hanover, was substituted a stone reredos for the incongruous oak altar piece which formerly concealed the East window.

ST. WERBURGH'S CHURCH.

Lately condemned to removal, in order to widen the thoroughfare, succeeds an older one on the same foundation, the pillars of the nave being of the 14th, and tower of the 15th century; this rises in four stages and is a good specimen of the Somersetshire type. The interior columns and arches are fair examples of the Decorated style; and there is a projecting porch, with a fan-traceried roof on the north side.

Among remarkable men who have occasionally filled the pulpit here, may be mentioned Bishop Fletcher, who attended Mary, Queen of Scots, to the scaffold; Bishop Trelawny, one of the famous seven; and of different mind to either of these, George Whitefield, John Wesley, Rowland Hill, and (20th June, 1848) Robert Montgomery, the victim of one of Lord Macaulay's bitterest criticisms.

Among the monuments is the kneeling figure of Nicholas Thorn, with a wife on either side and several children. He was one of the founders of the Bristol Grammar School, "God send us many coppices of such Thorns," says old Fuller, "for he was a blessing to our nation." Also may be noticed a quaint monument to John Barker, Mayor, who died in 1607.

In 1796, the Sunday evening lecture of St. Werburgh was established, and Mr. Biddulph was appointed the first lecturer. This appears to have been the first evening service opened in a church in Bristol.*

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH.

The church of All Hallow or All Saints is said by William of Worcester to have been founded before the

* *Felix Farley*, May 26, 1838.

Norman Conquest. This is perhaps doubtful, but the four cylindrical piers, at the western end of the nave, refer the earlier structure back to the Norman period.

The south aisle was rebuilt about the middle of the 15th century. The north, called Jesus' aisle, was rebuilt in 1782. The present tower was built in 1716. Eight new bells were cast for the church in 1728. The pulpit is very handsomely carved, and probably dates about the time of James I. Except the four Norman piers the interior of the church is in the Perpendicular or third pointed Gothic. These piers sustain, on the south side, what was once the vicarage, and was built by Thomas Marshal, Vicar and Calendar, in 1422. On the north-west end formerly rested the Library of the Fraternity of Calendars, whose chapel was the south aisle. These were a semi-religious fraternity, whose office it was to convert Jews, instruct youth, and keep the archives of the city. On every festival day (and holidays in olden time were not sparingly distributed through the year) free access was granted to all willing to receive instruction; and the prior, if duly required, was to lay open doubtful and obscure places of scripture to all that asked him, and read a public lecture every week in the library.

By the ancient office of the Mayor of Bristol, it was appointed that upon Allhallow's Day the Mayor and the Sherref of Bristow were, after dinner, to assemble with the whole Councel at the Tolsey, "with many other gentle and worshipful commoners, such as appereth there at that time, and from thence go in to All Hallowen Church, there to offer, and from thence to walke all in fere (company) into the Mayor's place, there to have their fires and their drinkings with spiced cake bread, and sundry wines, the cups merrily serving about the house; and from thence every man departing into his parish church to evensong."*

The entrance doorway with an obtuse pointed arch and some other features of the vicarage still remain

* Ricart's Calendar.

in All Saints' Court on the south of the church. Of the house of the Calendars at the north west angle of church nothing is left.

The most conspicuous monument in the church is one to the memory of the philanthropic Edward Colston. He was born in Bristol, Nov. 2, 1636, and died at Mortlake, in Surrey, Oct. 21, 1721, and he lies interred under the Communion Table in this church. On every Sunday a nosegay of such flowers as the season affords is placed on his monument, money having having been left for the purpose.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH.

The oldest portion of this church is the tower, which is a massive structure of Norman workmanship, in strong analogy with the vanished castle near whose barbican it stood, the walls of the belfry being more than six feet thick. The lower stage was built by Robert Fitzhamon, the founder of Tewkesbury Abbey. St. James's Church founded (c. 1140) by Robert, Earl of Gloucester, the son-in-law of Fitzhamon, has been hitherto accounted the oldest in Bristol, but contained in the Museum and Library, Queen's Road, is an original deed of Simon, Bishop of Worcester A.D. 1130, which speaks of St. Peter's being then by common consent reputed the most ancient, and moreover states that St. James's Church is about to be erected. The pillars dividing the nave from the aisle consist of small clustered columns with filletted capitals of Perpendicular date. The windows of the south aisle are of the same style and of good design; those in the north aisle have been renewed with much loss in effect. The roof, both of the nave and the aisles, is divided into squares by ribs springing from corbel heads, and is likewise of the 15th century.

At the east end of the south aisle there is a fine brass of the date of 1461, representing a priest (Robert Loud) in eucharistic vestments and bearing a chalice. In the south aisle is a sumptuous tomb, with the kneeling

figures of Robert Aldworth and his wife, who resided in the ancient house adjoining the church, now called St. Peter's Hospital, where he died in 1634. Near this is a storied monument of costly workmanship, having a canopy supported by six fluted pillars, whose one-time gilded capitals are now disfigured by white-wash. Upon the sculptured sarcophagus comprising the tomb lies the effigy of a lady in the quaint costume of the reign of James I. Of her no account is given except that she belonged to the family of Newton, of Barr's Court. Mr. Ellacomb, however, supposes her to have been Antholin, wife of John Newton, brother to Sir Henry Newton, who died in 1599. Contrasted with and lying at the foot of this costly memorial is a humble but suggestive *memento mori* in the form of a cadaver or skeleton, to the memory of some unknown person.

At the east end of the south aisle was a chauntry to the honour of the "Blessed Mary of Bellhouse."

In the burial ground was interred Richard Savage the poet, the story of whose life by Johnson has imparted so romantic an interest to his name. He died, a debtor in Newgate, Bristol, 1st of August, 1743.

CHRIST CHURCH.

The present edifice, which stands on the site of a Norman, if not Saxon foundation, was opened in 1790; it is built of freestone, and any attempt at exterior ornamentation has been expended on the western end and the tower, the rest being enclosed by houses, and rudely finished. The style is nominally Grecian, with variations in accordance with modern exigencies and tastes. There being no classical prototype to guide the construction of an ecclesiastical interior, the present is divided in the manner of a Gothic edifice into three aisles. The result is favourable, the proportions being symmetrical and chaste, and the embellishments such as to gain admiration in any reasonable tolerator of the style. Behind the organ is a relic of

the old church in the form of an ancient oak chest secured by three locks, one of which is very curious. "I remember the old church," says Southey, who was born and spent his boyhood near its precincts, "a row of little shops was built before it, above which its windows received light, and on the leads which roofed them crowds used to stand at the chairing of members, as they did to my remembrance when peace was proclaimed after the American War. I was christened in that old church, and vividly remember our pew under the organ. ——— was then rector, a humdrum somnificator, who, God rest his soul for it! made my poor mother stay at home Sunday evenings because she could not stay awake after dinner to hear him. A worldly-minded man succeeded, and effected, by dint of begging and impudence, a union between the two parishes of Christ Church and St. Ewen's, for no other conceivable reason than that he might be rector of both. There were quarter boys to this old church clock, as to St. Dunstan, and I have many a time stopt with my satchel on my back to see them strike."

In Barrett's Bristol is a rude engraving of the old church in relationship with the High Cross. The quarter-boy clock spoken of by Southey is there exhibited; and no doubt when Queen Bess passed by the church with her brilliant company in 1574-5, her eye rested for a moment on what was substantially the same old timekeeper. In 1575 there is this entry in the Proctor's book:—"Paid the clerke for singing, and dressing the Rolodge agaynst the Queen's Majesty's comyng, as by his accompt apereth." In 1702 and later there are payments of £2 a year to a man whose favorable surname was 'Sobriety,' for keeping the clock. A singular Christian name in these church papers is *Marrabulus*, or, as it is more accurately spelt in another place, *Mirabilis* Jefferies.

Among the obits or yearly commemorations was one founded by Richard Gerele, who by will gave nineteen tenements and a garden to find a chaplain daily in the Chapel of St. Michael in the Church of Holy Trinity

or Christ Church, to officiate for ever at mass for the soul of himself and Thomasin his wife. Under the entries for 1534 are found—

Item the obbet of Rychard Gerele, to master parson	xvid.
Item to v. Priests	xxd.
Item to ij. Clarks, iiijd. offeryng and lights ijd.	vid.
Item to the Priests drynkyn	viiid.

Some of the lands belonging to the endowments of these chauntries had not, by some oversight, been commuted to the Crown so late as the 15th year of Elizabeth; for William Yate and Thomas Fawcett, Proctors at that time, showed that money derived from these lands had been employed in the payment of priests, curates, and clerks, and for the ornaments of the church, &c. It appeared, however, that the Queen had a virtual claim upon the estates, and they were therefore purchased from the Crown. The rector in 1776 had some dispute with the wardens of the property relative to some customary donation from it kept back from him. The parish deeds and papers being withheld from his examination he filed a bill in Chancery, and after a tedious suit of three years' duration, and a cost of upwards of £1400 out of the church stock, the court declared the charity must be confirmed, and the lands, &c., appropriated as in the deed of 31 Elizabeth.*

Of the monuments the most notable are one to Richard Standfast, one of the sequestrated clergy; and a brass to Thomas Farmer, Mayor, and his wife, who both died in Nov. 1624. John Elbridge, the original founder of the Infirmary, was also interred here.

The metrical portion of the following epitaph might have a place in some "curious volume of forgotten lore"—Here lyeth Thomas Turar and Mary his wife. He was twice Master of the Company of Bakers, and twice churchwarden of this Parish. He died, March 6th, 1654. She died, May 8th, 1643.

Like to a baker's oven is the grave,
Wherein the bodyes of the faithful have

* Barrett, 467. Church Records.

A *setting in*, and where they do remain,
 In hopes to rise and to be drawn again.
 Blessed are they who in the Lord are dead,
 Though set like *dough*, they shall be drawn like bread.

THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL.

The period of the erection of this church is sufficiently indicated by its architectural style, which is neither Christian nor Pagan, but an undesirable combination of both. The tower, which is in the Perpendicular, or third pointed style, and belongs to the 15th Century, is the only portion of interest that now stands of the old Church. The present building was opened on Sunday June 22nd, 1777, the Mayor and Corporation attending in state.

According to a custom instituted in 1376 it was usual on Michaelmas day for the whole Town Council after they had dined, to assemble at the High Cross, and "from thence the new Mayor, with all the whole company, to walk honourably to Saint Michael's Church, and there to offer, and then to return to the new Mayor's house, every man taking his leave of the mayor, and to return home to their evensong."* The Church has just been restored (1877) at the cost of about £1100.

CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

The Honorable Horace Walpole's recorded opinion of this church that it is "neat and truly Gothic" will hardly at the present time meet with much favour. It stands on an ancient foundation, and a more impoverished reproduction of the grand old Gothic style would be hardly possible. The spire, indeed, is a redeeming feature. The height of this is 205 feet from the ground.

The former structure stood upon the town-wall, the east end standing upon St. Nicholas Gate, at the bottom of High Street. The removal of this gate in 1762 having entailed the demolition of a part of the church, it was thought judicious to rebuild the whole

* Ricart's Calendar.

edifice, which was effected at an expense of £6000. The interior effect is that of an ornate assembly room, and considered apart from the affected Gothic treatment of the windows, is worthy of some toleration.* The old crypt, which served both for religious services and for a cemetery, was happily preserved, and is the only portion of archæological interest that remains. It consists of two aisles, divided by five clustered pillars. From these spring the ribs of the vaulting, which have boldly carved bosses at the intersections. The date of this substructure is about 1503, at which time the old church was partly rebuilt. There are, however, portions that indicate an earlier style of architecture, a crypt having existed for several previous centuries. The festival of the Boy Bishop was here kept up with great completeness on St. Nicholas eve. "The Maire and Sherif, and their brethren," says Ricart in his curious local calendar, "walk to Seynt Nicholas Church, there to hear their evensong; and on the morrow to hear their mass, and offer and hear the Bishop's sermon and have his blessing; after dinner the said Mayor, Sherif, and their brethren, assemble at the Mayor's counter there waiting the Bishop's coming, playing the meanwhile at dice, the town clerk to find them dice, and to have 1d. of every raphill; and when the Bishop is come thither, his chapel there to sing, the Bishop to give them his blessing, and then he and all his chapel to be served there with bread and wine.

* The following lines on St. Nicholas' Spire, by a Somersetshire poet, give some particulars not embodied in the text :

In zeventeen honderd and sixty nine,
 Theaze steeple wor bilded, and luck'd gay and vine,
 Patty wor hee who planned theaze spire,
 Haggled the stones, Vranklyn work'd the ire,
 Catcott made verses, and also vound puter
 To put on the top on't, to tell voke in vutire,
 How that 'twor he that led the last stone,
 And whoze zon he wor, and his trade, and zo on;
 But in zeventeen honderd dree score and ten,
 The wind blew'd zome on't almost down agen,
 But in thic zame year the steeple wor mended,
 The scaffold pull'd down, and the work wor ended.



BROAD STREET, ST. JOHN'S GATEWAY.

And so depart the Maire, Sherif, and their brethren, to hear the Bishop's evensong at Seynt Nicholas Church aforesaid."

In the crypt is buried Alderman Whitson, who was a princely benefactor to the poor of the city. He died A.D. 1629. His effigy is recumbent on a canopied tomb within the north entrance of the church.

By a code of instructions dated 1481 we find that the suffragan was "to ring curfew with one bell at ix. of the clock, a convenient peal the maintenance of half a quarter of an hour." This custom, we may add, has been traditionally continued, and the curfew bell may still be heard every evening at 9 o'clock.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, BROAD STREET.

The present church occupies the site of one that was to be found here in the year 1174, at which date the latter was given with others to the Priory of St. James, Bristol, and the Monastery of Tewkesbury. According to local annals the existing structure was founded in the year 1388 or the year after, the founder being Walter Frampton, who had been three times Mayor of Bristol, the last time being in 1374. Frampton's will is dated 1388, and as the style of architecture is half a century later than this date, he could not have lived to see the erection of the church.

The church having formed a part of the town wall (the belfry tower and spire being erected over one of the chief gateways, which still remains) has no window either at its eastern or western end. Neither has it a transept or projecting porch, being a simple parallelogram pierced by eight Perpendicular windows on each side. On the northern flank is a range of low windows belonging to the crypt. The interior of the sacred edifice is long and narrow, and consists of a nave and chancel, divided by a tall pointed arch with mouldings of impoverished character. The roof of open timber work is of 15th century date, and good, but without ornament. A wall, in which are two Tudor doors, was

built about 1570 to form a vestry at the east end of the chancel.

The richly carved Communion Table is worthy of special notice. It is no doubt identical with the one charged in the accounts under A.D. 1635.

The crypt, dedicated to the Holy Cross, is entered by a small doorway on the north side. Immediately within is a stoup; and another of these occurs, with a carved demi-angel above, in connection with an altar tomb in the south-west wall. In the eastern portion of the crypt the moulded ribs of the vaulting spring rectagonally and diagonally from clustered mural columns, but in the western division these ribs or groining ascend immediately from the ground without the support of pillars or capitals. The apex of the roof is about 11 feet from the floor. The date of the crypt seems architecturally to correspond with the superstructure, and has been pronounced by Mr. Freeman to be of the late 15th or early 16th century, but is usually reputed to belong to the earlier of these epochs. This crypt formerly served as a chapel for a religious guild, which was established in 1465, in honour of the Holy Rood, St. John the Baptist, and St. Martin. By the rules of the fraternity a priest was to say every Monday "a mass of the Holy Ghost," and every Wednesday "a mass of requiem for all Christian souls," and every Friday "a mass of the Holy Cross," the celebrations beginning at six o'clock in the summer months, and seven o'clock in the winter.

On the north side of the chancel is a raised tomb supporting the outstretched figure of a burgher in a long robe buttoned down the front. A border inscription denotes this to contain the remains of Walter Frampton, the founder of the present church. In the floor of the nave are brasses of a male and a female figure with inscription to the memory of Thomas Vowles, merchant and sheriff, who died 1478, and Margaret his wife, who died 1470. In the crypt is a large tomb supporting the effigies of a man and his

wife, and sculptured on the front are eleven children. This has been generally referred to the Rowleys, but its identity is uncertain, as is that also of the altar tomb on the south west side of the crypt. Interred here are the remains of Sir George Snigge, eldest son of Baron Snigge, Recorder of Bristol. He was drowned at ten o'clock of the night of December 27th, 1610, in attempting to cross Rownham Ferry on horseback, on his way from Sir Hugh Smyth's at Ashton. His body was not found until 10th of June following, when it was taken up, but without hands or legs.

The weather-beaten statues on either side of St. John's Gate are accounted to represent Brennus and Belinus, the legendary founders of Bristol. As far back as A.D. 1366 the name Bristol was derived from *Brennus*.*

ST. JAMES'S CHURCH.

The Church of St. James originally belonged to a Benedictine Priory, dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. James the Apostle. It is recorded that Robert Earl of Gloucester devoted one-tenth of the stones which he had imported from Normandy for the construction of his castle, to the building of this Priory, which was formerly of considerable extent, but of which now the nave of the church alone exists, the chancel which belonged to the monks having being destroyed consequent upon the Dissolution.

The western façade is the only accessible portion of the exterior by the church of which the character of the Norman building may be discerned. Above the doorway at this end is an arcade of intersecting arches, three of which are pierced for windows. Over the arcade is a small but interesting rose window. The ancient clerestory remains but is exteriorly hidden on the north side by the adjoining houses and on the south by the parapet of the aisle. The south clerestory,

* Brennius civitatem condidit in occidentali parte Britanniae et eam nomine suo appellavit scilicet Brenstou, nunc vero per syncopen Bristow vocitatur. *Eulogium Historiarum*, vol. ii., p. 242.

however, when discovered, exhibits an arcade, extending the whole length of the outside of the church. It consists of a series of shafts with the common Norman capital supporting arches of irregular form, some pointed, some elliptic with semi-circular ones over the windows. Near the east remains one corbel shewing the height at which a corbel table once passed above the arches. In the north side the clerestory windows have what Bloxam calls nook-shafts; and are in other respects similar to those on the south, but there is no arcade to connect them.

The tower is of the Perpendicular style, and dates from the latter quarter of the 14th century, but since then has undergone considerable repair and alteration.

The nave of the church is divided from the aisles by two rows of massive Norman piers, which are connected by semi-circular arches. The eastern end is a modern reproduction of the Norman style of building, and consists of three circular headed windows with chevron mouldings, and beneath are two series of stone arcades.

The length of the nave is 84ft., height to the spring of the roof 31ft., breadth between the piers $29\frac{3}{4}$ ft., span of the arches $12\frac{1}{2}$ ft., diameter of piers $3\frac{3}{4}$ ft., height of the same a little more than twice the diameter.

The Priory of St. James stood outside the walls of the town, northwards from the Castle, whose towers and bastions rose grandly before the eyes of the monks just beyond the limits of their green sward. It was a cell to the Abbey of Tewkesbury; and as early as the beginning of the 14th century, the suburb having gathered a population, the nave of the church, by grant of the Abbot of the parent monastery, was assigned to the use of the parishioners, these being required to erect a square belfry or tower; and it appears also, to cover or reconstruct the roof of the nave from the tower to the western gable. The latter part of this demand occasioned a strife between the prior of St. James and the parish, which was decided by the convent agreeing to receive 42 pence annual rent from a certain parcel of land at Redland.

The south aisle was removed in 1698, to make way for one of more commodious dimensions, which is built in the most debased style of Perpendicular, at a cost to the parish of £600. The new north aisle was consecrated on Oct, 26, 1864. The columns are of Purbeck marble, and the whole effect of the aisle is quite at variance with the general character of the church, which instead of lightness and polish, presents massiveness and solemnity of feature. The cost of this addition inclusive of general repair was £4000.*

The priory was dissolved in 1540, the last Abbot being allowed an annual pension of £13 6s. 8d. for his lifetime.

It was then granted, together with its appended estate of lands, manor house, tenements, &c., to Henry Brayne, a merchant tailor of London, upon whose decease it passed to his son Robert. From him (in 1529) the estates descended to his sisters, Dame Emma, wife of Sir Charles Somerset, and to Ann Winter, wife of George Winter, as co-heiresses. Sir Charles Somerset and his wife Emma lie buried here on the south side of the altar, where is a Corinthian monument with kneeling figures, to their memory, and that of their only daughter. This daughter married Sir Charles Redcliff Gerrard, Knight, by whom about the year 1626 the premises were conveyed to the Mayor and Corporation of Bristol.†

In the wall of the south aisle towards the east is a recessed tomb supporting a recumbent figure, which a modern inscription purports to represent Robert, Earl of Gloucester, the founder of St. James's Priory, who was buried within the walls of the church. It is more probably the monument of Richard de Grenville, who died in 1240, and was here buried.

Another illustrious personage here interred was the Princess Eleanor of Brittany, whose final captivity by the last enemy was only like a prolongation of her rigid life-long imprisonment within the sepulchral walls of the castle. Eleanor was placed in Bristol Castle, in

* Church Builder. † Barrett, 385.

the custody of four knights, who kept continual guard, and after forty years' confinement here and elsewhere, was released by death on 4th of August, 1240. She was first buried in St. James's Church, but by order of the king, Henry III., her body was in the same year translated to Amesbury. §

In the pestilence that devastated Bristol at the beginning of the 17th century, 390 persons died in St. James's parish, between August 20th, 1603, and March 22nd, 1604. The unenclosed portion of the burial ground was employed for the interment of those who died in the pestilence, and the ground has remained unbroken for fear of the development of latent contagion, of which it is said instances have occurred through partial infraction of this restriction.

ST. MARY-LE-PORT.

This church is dedicated to our Lady of the Port, there having been formerly an open approach from the river to the south side of the sacred building, whence the appropriateness of the dedication. The earlier fabric on the same spot is believed to have been founded by William Earl of Gloucester, son of the great Robert, "for he is expressly said about 1170, to have granted and confirmed this church to the Priory of Keynsham, for the sustentation of the canons there."

The interior of the present structure has suffered so much in adaptation to modern exigencies of worship, as to realize in a very imperfect degree its mediæval aspect. It consists of two aisles of unequal breadth, the clustered columns dividing which are of Perpendicular date, assignable to the 15th century. The roof has been more than once renovated, and at present shows a concave ceiling, with some attempt at ornament. In the south wall of the chancel is a flight of steps, now conducting to the pulpit, but which formerly led to the rood loft. The tower is of the Florid style like the interior, and is 72 feet in height to

he base of the pinnacles. The windows in the upper part of the tower, the panelled parapet, and corner turret, are among the best details of the church, and deserve notice.

The accounts of the successive wardens of the church of St. Mary-le-Port appear not hitherto to have been examined. Like most old church records they contain many quaint and interesting entries that illustrate current events and customs, as well as the individual life of the church. The documents have been kept in the form of a separate book for each year, and through the kindness of the vicar, and ready sanction of Mr. Jones, the present warden, we have been allowed to inspect them. The earliest record we have been able to discover is of the last year of Queen Mary, 1558, when the pre-Reformation usages were going on, or rather, after having been resuscitated, had arrived at their consummation. We have a payment of 6d. for "housselling bredd and frankincence," the fragrant clouds of which latter were probably the last that rose up from the waving censer in this church. Analogous entries are :—

Item paide to the wax maker for the Paschall and fonte taper iijs.

Item paide for bearing of the banners the Rogacion week iiijd.

Item paide for carriage of the crosse and rynging of the bells upon Corpus Christi daye., xd.

Item paide to a priest that saide masse in the church upon Sunday after Mydsomer Day, xijd.

In 1583 the year's "wages" of Mr. Arthur, the "parson," was £xiii. Entries in the church accounts show that a carpenter's wages between 1583 and 1586 were a shilling a day.

Lord Macaulay's well-known representation of the poverty, and consequent inferior social position, of the clergy before and under the Restoration, receives confirmative illustration from various items in the records of the present church, of relief afforded from the parish funds to clerical recipients.

A.D. 1638 at the thirde of May, given to a poore minister, 2s.

1639. Item the 22nd of June, given to a poor minister, 1s.

Item given the first of October to a poore minister's wiffe, 1s. 6d.

Item given to a verie poore minister, 6d.

1645. Gave to Mr. Semore, a minister that was gwayne to Ireland, 1s.

(In the verb *gwayne*, which is Peter Muggleworth's—the warden for 1649—invariable way of spelling *going*, we have a Gloucestershire provincialism still in use among the uneducated).

A.D. 1663. Gave a poor minister wich came with a teastemoneall, 2s.

A.D. 1664. Item paid to 2 ministers which came out of Ireland, 1s.*

In the north wall was lately discovered and opened to view, the mullions and tracery of the windows which were blocked up three centuries ago by the houses outside.

The grand eagle lectern formerly belonged to the Cathedral: it weighs 692 pounds. A new font, the gift of Mr. J. R. Bramble, has been added to the church in conclusion of the recent restoration (A.D. 1877). The restoration cost £2,150.

CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS THE MARTYR.

The present architectural interest of this church is soon dispatched. The only portion of the ancient structure remaining is the mutilated tower, which has been shorn of turrets and battlements. The roof of the belfry internally shows some ribs and elaborate bosses of the early English style, but externally the buttresses and windows are of the Perpendicular period. The old church is said to have been conspicuous for beauty, and to have ranked second to St. Mary Redcliff for spaciousness and elegance, but no authentic drawing of it appears to have been preserved, or at least published. It is mentioned in documents as early as 1200, and was then, like, Redcliff, only a chapel to another (Bedminster) church.†

* We may mention that like items appear in the accounts of St. John's, and all, or nearly all, the other churches of Bristol. We are obliged to defer the quotation of numerous details from St. Mary-le-port records to a further occasion.

† Barrett, 550.

The existing building was completed in 1793, a date that of itself gives assurance that the character of the architecture does not deserve much admiration. Over the Grecian (?) altarpiece which is flanked on either side by a life-size statue, is a large picture of the "Incredulity of St. Thomas."

Several chauntries were founded in the earlier church, one being for the soul of Richard II. The walls are much encrusted with sepulchral memorials, but none of the epitaphs are of very general interest.

Near the church is an almshouse, of which the inscription on the front will be sufficient to indicate its character—"St. Thomas Parish. This almshouse was erected in the year 1292, for sixteen persons, by Simon de Burton, and rebuilt Anno Domini 1721. He was five times Mayor."

CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP AND JAMES.

The church of St. Philip and Jacob (or James) was primarily a chapel to a religious house of the order of St. Benedict, which stood at the eastern end of the present church. A market having been established near its site, for the service of the castle and town, and the inhabitants of the district consequently increasing, a parish church was instituted, but at what date is uncertain. It is mentioned, however, as early as 1174, as then being one of the fees of William, Earl of Gloucester. In 1388, Henry Wakefield, Bishop of Worcester, annexed the rectory of St. Philip to the Monastery of Tewkesbury; and in the Bristol Museum and Library is the original document by which Thomas, Abbot of Tewkesbury, appoints brother Richard Worcester, prior of St. James, Bristol, to take possession of the church of St. Philip and Jacob in their name, and receive the tithes and oblations. The deed is dated at Tewkesbury, 20th Aug. 1393.

The tower, except the upper stage, which is debased Perpendicular, is a beautiful piece of Early English, having two collateral lancet windows, with bold mould-

ings on each of the four sides. A deeply recessed, boldly cut arch of the same (13th century) date, opens from the base of the tower into the church; a corresponding arch divides the north aisle of the chancel from the nave aisle. The nave is separated from the aisles by three arches of exceedingly broad span, which are sustained by massive pillars, having no capital or base, the moulding springing direct from the ground, and round the soffit of each arch.

The roof is of timber with carved bosses: it is an excellent specimen of the time of Richard II. (c. 1390), but until lately it was concealed by a plaster ceiling. Some interesting corbels which supported the old roofs of the aisles still jut from the walls.

The Kemys aisles or chauntry to a family of that name, is divided from the chancel by pannelled arches of the time of Henry VII. Inside of one of the piers is a stone staircase, which communicated with the rood loft. Some remains of steps in another pier belonged to a stone pulpit; and in the pier adjoining is an aumbry for eucharistic vessels. Recent investigations of the same piers have led to the discovery that they form a superadded casing to the remains of a beautifully proportioned Early English church which occupied the area of the present chancel. In the external north wall of the chancel may be seen traces of a 13th century window and doorway.

The font is Norman. A coffin slab, with some curious ornament in transitional Norman (12th century) is preserved in the church. A portion of a sepulchral effigy of a warrior in plate armour, of uncertain identity, is in the north aisle.

It should be added that the church underwent, in 1868, a partial restoration, by the competent hands of Messrs. E. W. Godwin and Henry Crisp.

REDCLIFF CHURCH.

L The earliest allusion to a church at Redcliff appears in A.D. 1232, at which time, by arrangement of Bishop Joceline (who built the west front of Wells Cathedral),

a reconciliation was here effected between William de Blois, Bishop of Worcester, and the Abbot of Tewkesbury, who had been at variance. In the same year there is mention of the confirmation of a gift of land lying against the clock tower.* Concerning the primitive church of St. Mary Redcliff, nothing is known, but that a church here existing had fallen into ruinous condition by the year 1246, is shown by an Indulgence of that date, allowing a remission of ten days' penance to all who should contribute to its restoration. The inner north porch, and the lower part of the tower, both of which portions are Early English in style, probably belonged to the edifice here referred to. Mr. George Godwin, the Architect to whom the current work of restoration has been entrusted, states that he "found corroborative evidence of the existence of a church of the same date as the inner porch in taking down the clerestory of the chancel, some of the old stonework being worked up in the walls."

The city chronicles assign the honour of erecting a subsequent church on the spot, to Simon de Burton, who filled the office of Mayor of Bristol five times, between the years 1291 and 1304. De Burton's structure was left unfinished, and the credit of completing the work is given to the elder William Canynge, who in 1376, it is said, "built the body of Redcliff Church from the cross aisles downwards, and so the Church was finished as it is now." So greatly, however, was the building indebted to the second William Canynge, grandson of the preceding, that he has been popularly, though erroneously, called its founder. About the year 1445, as the city records relate, there occurred a terrible storm of thunder and lightning, by which the spire of Redcliff Church was struck down, and falling upon the body of the fabric, it so injured this as to render

* Ex dono Johannis filii Willielmi. capellani Radeclive totam terram suam contra clocheriam S. Mariæ de Redclive. *Charter of Confirmation of Bradenstoke Priory* of Henry III. Fol. 194. The writer is indebted to the Rev. E. A. Fuller for this reference.

extensive rebuilding necessary. Much doubt has been caused concerning this catastrophe to the structure, the objection being contained in the denial that the spire was ever raised above its present elevation. Barrett, however, quotes the evidence of three distinct and independent documents in proof that it was thus destroyed. Moreover, William of Worcester, who was a native of Bristol (obit. A.D. 1484), and living in the Parish of St. Philip at the time the reputed event occurred, in giving an elaborate account of Redcliff Church, after stating the height of the tower to be 120 feet, incidentally adds that "with the spire as it now remains, *broken by a storm*, (it) is 200 feet high. The trustworthy character of this witness is unimpeachable, and his living at the time and place of the asserted occurrence, excludes the possibility of his having been misled by false information concerning a disaster so signal as the one in question. The Church thus ruinously damaged was re-built by the second William Canynge, and with what success the present superb edifice shows.

In Redcliff Church the third pointed or Perpendicular style of Gothic Architecture is seen in its highest realized perfection. In completeness of parts, grandeur of proportion, and finish of detail, the building partakes of the character of a cathedral. The sumptuous porches, particularly that on the north side, the panelled walls, flying buttresses, trefoiled parapet and delicate mural pinnacles, the stories of windows with their elegant tracery, the elaborately worked tower, triple aisled transepts, long and lofty nave and chancel, tall clustered columns and magnificent groined roof, together with the Lady Chapel and undercroft, are attributes that entitle the edifice to rank architecturally with at least the secondary cathedrals of England.

The most specific feature of the building is the superb north porch. The festooned and interwoven foliage of the doorway, the voluptuously decorated windows, panelled buttresses, and crocketed pedimental niches of this exquisitely wrought architectural

member, present in combination a complexity of design, and an elaboration of detail and finish that entitle it to the claim of being the most sumptuously ornate church porch in England: The restoration of this portion of the fabric has cost £2535, and the skill and fidelity with which the complex devices have been re-carved by Mr. Rice, indicate a manipulative talent not inferior to that displayed by the original artist. In the muniment room, over this porch, still remain the chests now mouldering away, in which the erratic genius Chatterton asserted that he found the MSS. of the Rowley Poems.

The pulpit and font are very handsome specimens of modern carving, the work of Mr. Rice.

The most noticeable monuments are the following:—

I.—John Lamyngton. Westward of the south porch is a large stone coffin with a figure in partial relief, and an inscription in ancient characters which reads. “*Joannes Lamyngton.*” He was vicar of the church in 1393, and “his sprite” is an interlocutory character in one of the Rowley Poems.

II.—William Canynge, the re-builder of the church. Under a canopied recess in the south transept is an altar tomb with the recumbent effigies of William (the second) Canynge in his civic robes as mayor, and his wife in the costume of a lady of her day. The inscription denotes him to have been five times mayor of Bristol, and subsequently Dean of Westbury, in which capacity he died on 7th November, 1474. Adjoining is a second monument representing the same Canynge in his priest’s robes. On a stone near these tombs, says Barrett, was the following, “Here lies Thomas Chamber, of this parish, merchant, and his wife Ann. She died 1629, he October 1647.

“When I was young in wars I shed my blood
Both for my Queen, and for my country’s good;
In elder years my care was chief to be
Soldier to him who shed his blood for me.”

In the east end of the north aisle of the chancel is a richly sculptured double altar tomb, with fretwork canopy, to the memory of Thomas and Philip Mede,

formerly rich merchants of Bristol. Philip Mede succeeded Canynge as mayor of the city in 1458.

There is also a memorial tablet to Sir William Penn, a native of Bristol, and the father of the famous Quaker of his name. He died in 1670.

The rib of the Dun Cow, which, according to "our marvelling boyhood's legends' store," belonged to a quadruped so named which supplied all Bristol with her milk, may still be seen on the left hand of the western entrance to the church. In reality we believe it is a rib of the cow whale, and, according to an entry in the Town Records, it appears to have been brought hither in 1497, probably by Sebastian Cabot, who about that time discovered Newfoundland.

On her progress through Bristol, in 1573, Queen Elizabeth visited this church, and was so struck by its majesty as to pronounce it the "fairest and stateliest parish church in England."

The inner north porch is part of the earlier church, and was erected in the first decade of the 13th century, at which time grants of land were made for repairing the church. Against the east and west walls are arcades of five equilateral pointed arches, supported by detached pillars. The foliated capitals, and multiform corbels will yield much interest to the architectural student. In the south-west wall is a small cell, which has been erroneously called a confessional.

The groined roof of the nave and chancel, with the richly designed bosses (each different) at the intersections of the ribs, is now relieved by gold and colours, and the gorgeous and imposing effect well justifies the resuscitation of the ancient practice of bringing out details in this manner. The reredos is a fine piece of recent carving: it cost £800.

The capstone of the new spire, which cost £5,500, was laid May 10th, 1872, by the Mayor, Mr. W. Proctor Baker, and the Mayoress.

The restoration of the church has been conducted on a successful and magnificent scale over a period of 30 years, during which time upwards of £40,000 has been expended upon the work.

TEMPLE CHURCH.

The district south-east of the Avon, still recalling the memory of the Templars by its name, was granted to that famous brotherhood of Crusaders by the powerful Robert, Earl of Gloucester, in the year 1145.

The church erected by the Red Cross Knights was small, and certainly not to be identified with the present structure, which is of later architecture than the Norman original. The oldest portion of the existing fabric is the chancel, which belongs to the Decorated period, a style that prevailed through the greater portion of the 14th century. The remainder of the church, including the pillars of the nave, and the north and south ranges of windows, are of the Perpendicular style, and belongs to the 15th century. Some remains of ancient coloured glass still occupy several windows of the chancel and Weavers' chapel. The roof of the nave is pointed and divided into squares by oak ribs, with bosses at the intersections. The tower as far as the trefoil band (which can be discerned about two-thirds upwards) probably belongs to the year 1397, at which date Reginald Taylor, a hermit residing at the Chapel of St. Brendon, on the "mount" of Brandon-hill, bequeathed money towards its erection. According to William Botoner, *alias* Worcester, however, the tower was built anew in A.D. 1460, but it is likely this assertion applies only to the upper stage, or that above the ornamental band referred to. The interval occurring between these distinct erections is fairly attributable to the foundation of the earlier story having sunk while the work was in progress, and thus causing the alarming inclination for which the tower is so remarkable. The parapet overhangs the base as much as five feet. An inspection of the interior of the tower will show that an attempt was made to prevent an increase of declination by a species of columnar buttress, relieved on the north side by a corbel.

The north aisle of the chancel is known as the Weavers' Chapel, from the Guild of Weavers having

anciently adopted it for their special oratory. The unique candelabrum in the chancel, representing with enrichments a mail clad knight thrusting his spear into a dragon, is an exquisitely designed piece of fifteenth century work. An inscription on the south wall denotes that the "Chappell and a piece of ground thereunto belonging (was) granted in the Reign of Edward the First to the Company of Weavers for their use for ever, 1299." On the floor may be seen inscriptions to members of the guild here interred. The tombstones have shuttles and other devices emblematical of the weaving craft.

On the floor towards the chancel is a brass representing the half figure of a civilian with clasped hand, with the following inscription—(the date, 1396, has disappeared):—

Es testis, Christe, quod non jacet, hic lapis iste
Corpus ut ornetur, sed spiritus ut memoretur,
Huc tu quo transis, magnus, medius, puer an sis
Pro me funde preces, dabitur, mihi sic veniæ spes.

"Thou art witness, O Christ, that this stone is not here laid to adorn the body, but to commemorate the spirit. You who pass by, whether old, middle-aged, or youth, make supplication for me, that so I may attain hope of pardon."

On the floor of the chancel is a brass of a priest, without date or inscription. He is habited in a cope, with an embroidered orfray down the front, and fastened at the neck with a brooch marked with a cross. The date is considered to be about 1460.

In the chancel is a monument to John Stone, thrice mayor of Bristol, who had four wives; he died 24th June, 1575. While he was at mass here in Queen Mary's reign there came one Richard Sharp a weaver out of a little door lately re-opened in the Weavers' chapel, and proclaimed the worship to be idolatry. Thereupon this John Stone caused his sergeants to apprehend him; and being convicted he was publicly burnt for the offence on St. Michael's hill, near the turnpike, where the four roads meet.

Another brass is inscribed to Richard Lloyd and his six sons and seven daughters. He died May 13, 1621.

On the north wall of the chancel is a long Latin inscription to members of the family of Knight. Of these, Sir John, who died in 1683, aged 71, was the most notable in his day; and his character for intemperate and aggressive torism has been revived and attacked with no little asperity by Macaulay. While Sir John Knight was mayor his Sunday recreation was hunting down Nonconformists, whom he heartily hated. The charitable feeling of Sir John towards Dissenters was fully sympathized with and encouraged by Guy Carlton, then Bishop of Bristol, who was a marked huntsman, and showed his agility in the pastime, whether his quarry were nonconformists or foxes.

In the year 1568, Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, subsequently beheaded for complicity in treason with Mary Queen of Scots, visited this church in company with other lords, being induced by curiosity concerning the obliquity of the tower. He had the bells rung to try the truth of the tower shaking at such times.

The church has recently undergone a judicious restoration under the care of Messrs. Ponton and Gough, architects.

REMAINS OF TOWN WALL, MONASTIC HOUSES, &c.

The original cruciform arrangement of the town is still indicated by the rectangular intersection of the four central streets, Broad Street, High Street, Wine Street, and Corn Street, which, from mediæval days, have continued to be the principal business thoroughfares. The ancient gateway, with its portcullis grooves, at the lower end of Broad Street, is a typical feature of the old town, that maintains its original position. A much earlier gateway, within a few hundred yards to the east of St. John's Church, also exists. This is a piece of 13th century work, and was called the Blind Gate. The wall at this point was about 10 feet thick.

L Remains of the Castle.—The imposing mass of the castle rose from the north bank of the Avon with much the same aspect as the Tower of London rises from the same side of the Thames; the keep being equal in magnitude and like in form to the famous White Tower of the metropolitan fortress. The area enclosed by the castle walls was six acres. The barbican stood at the chancel end of St. Peter's Church, about the entrance of the present Castle Street. A glance over the bridge in Queen Street will still show the old castle wall rising up from the moat; and portions of the curtain wall may be observed from the Weir, at the back of the houses in Castle Green, which are terraced above the embattled parapet. Some extensive vaults of the fortress form the cellarage of Habgood's iron warehouse in Castle Green, and other vaults opening beneath the parapet on the Weir serve now for carpenters' shops. But the most interesting of the remains are two vaulted cells or chambers situated at No. 21, Castle Green. One of these chambers, of 15th century work, is used for a stable or something equally ignoble; the second, and most worthy attention, a fine specimen of Early English architecture, has a modern apartment erected within its precincts. The box-like form of the implanted room, however, leaves free the groined roof, and also affords space for a side passage, so that the constructive features of the ancient work can be at least partially examined. The groins and ribs spring from clustered columns, with capitals of the stiff carved foliage usual to the first half of the 13th century. All the details are now embedded in coats of whitewash, which, together with the inhabited room spoken of, are a sufficient obstacle to thorough inspection and realisation of the proper interest of the venerable relic of the magnificent fortress whose towers and halls once occupied the present district. The remains are, however, quite accessible, and should be seen by the archæologist, who will agree with the writer that more respectful preservation of them is to be recommended to those in authority.

Dominican Priory, Rosemary Street.—Nearly opposite the Merchants' Almshouse in Merchant Street, is the Quakers' Friars, which forms an avenue to the Friends' School, the houses constituting which are portions of the Dominican Priory.

These ancient remains consist of two rectangular buildings connected by a cloister, forming in the whole three sides of a quadrangle. The longer building, on the north, now used as a school-house, contains an original timber roof of the 14th century, which formed the covering of the monastic dormitory. The upper storey is lighted by a series of lancet windows in the north wall, and formerly by a similar series, but square headed, in the south wall. The west window is Decorated, and of very elegant design.

This second building, known as the "Bakers' Hall," which lies parallel with and about 60 feet south of the first, is earlier in date than that, and probably belongs to the original foundation in 1229. The upper storey was apparently the lesser hall of the Friary.

The convent was founded by Maurice Gaunt, lord of Beverstone Castle, who died in 1230, and is here buried. Also interred here were Sir Maurice Berkeley, of Beverstone (*ob.* 1466), and Johanna, his wife. Sir William Daubeney, and Lord Anslem de Gournay were also buried in the choir of the church, which is inferred by Mr. Godwin to have stood on the north side of the quadrangle. Bishop Latimer preached here, in 1534, one of his three stirring sermons that caused so much strife in the town.* John Hilsey, afterwards Protestant Bishop of Rochester, one of the most frequent preachers at St. Paul's Cross, London, was formerly Prior of this house.†

The Quakers' Meeting House was erected in 1669 on part of the site of the monastic buildings. In the same year, George Fox, the Father of Quakerism, was married within its walls, his bride being Margaret Fell, widow

* See *ante*, p. 19.

† Other particulars are to be found in "A Book about Bristol," p. 195.

of Judge Fell. In 1697, William Penn, the founder of the colony of Pennsylvania, came to Bristol and here resided, during which period he is presumed to have arranged the building of the adjacent streets, which still bear the names of Philadelphia, Penn, Hollister, and Callowhill Streets. Hannah Callowhill, the mother of Hannah Penn, the second wife of William Penn, was a daughter of Dennis Hollister, from whom was purchased the ground on which these streets are erected.‡

Of the Franciscan or Grey Friars, which stood on the site of the Unitarian Chapel, in Lewin's Mead, no remains exist.

St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Christmas Street.—The Early English arch that formed the original entrance of this convent, and yet exists, is of an unusual character, being struck from four centres, and therefore depressed in form. On one side of the exterior is a mutilated figure of the Virgin and Child. Within the porch, on either side, is a facial arcade of the same date (13th century) as the recessed outer arch. Some remains of the walls and windows of the chapel are in the rear of the building.

A deed, dated 1386, shows the patronage of the hospital to have been vested in Lord de la War; but of the origin of the house there seems to be no particulars.

It was anciently the custom, on St. Clement's Eve, for the Mayor, Sherriff, and their fellow Councilmen, "to walk to St. Clement's Chapel, within the Bartholomews, there to hear their evensong, and on the morrow their mass, and to offer there." The house, with attached estate, was purchased at the Dissolution by the executors of Robert Thorn, and conveyed to the Mayor and Burgesses for the provision of a free Grammar School, which continued here till 1769, when the scholars were removed to Unity Street. Under the date 1574, there is a charge for the erection of a scaffold "in front of the hospital in Christmas Street," for the boys to stand on, and sing and cheer Queen

‡ Tanner's Friends in Bristol, 119.

Bess, as she passed through this and Host Street to the Cathedral.

Carmelites, Park Row.—The House of the Carmelite or White Friars was pronounced by Leland the fairest of the houses of the Friars; and again he says “the White Friars’ place is very fair.” It occupied the site of the “great house,” subsequently Colston’s School, on St. Augustine’s Back, which has been lately demolished to obtain building ground for Colston Hall. The tower and spire of the church were 200 feet high. Of Bristol Carmelites may be mentioned Richard Lavingham, Confessor to Richard II., one of the most learned of the schoolmen, and author of numerous works in Latin. He was killed, in company with Sudbury, Archbishop of Canterbury, in the sedition of Wat Tyler, in 1381.

The Red Lodge, which stands on the site of part of the Carmelite Garden, was built in 1590, by Sir John Young, whose monument is in the Cathedral Choir. The house was purchased some time in the present century, by Dr. James Cowles Pritchard, the eminent ethnologist, whose residence, until about 1845, it became. In 1854 it was appropriated to its present purpose of a Reformatory School for Girls (of which more hereafter), by the distinguished social reformer, Miss Mary Carpenter. The drawing room is of a very splendid character of carved enrichment. The oak-panelled walls, with the architrave and mantelpiece of the same material, are loaded with sculptures of figures, trophies, flowers, and heraldic devices. Some cellarge of the old convent exists, and there is a secret room in the house, formed within the apparent thickness of the walls.

Nunnery of St. Mary Magdalen.—This stood at the foot of St. Michael’s Hill, at the entrance to Maudlin Street, which derives its name from the convent. The house stood on the site of the King David Inn, which incorporates a few of its remains. These are of the Perpendicular period, and consist of a winding staircase and two or three doorways. It was founded A.D.

1173, by Eva, wife of Robert Fitzharding, who herself was the first prioress.

Chapel of the Three Kings of Cologne, top of Christmas Steps.—This was founded in 1504 by John Foster, Mayor of Bristol in 1481. The connected almshouse is for 24 poor, who receive 6s. od. per week. By an ordination of Foster's will, a priest was required to say mass daily in this chapel, during 12 years ensuing upon the founder's death, for his soul and the souls of his relations.

The almost obliterated inscription over the sedilia or cavities attached to the east end of the chapel, is to the effect that Christmas Street Steps, otherwise Queen Street, were constructed or renewed in 1669.

Holy Trinity Hospital.—On the south side of Old Market Street is the Dial Almhouse, originally an almery or guild, founded in 1402 by John Barstable, merchant, for 12 men and women. It has been rebuilt, and now maintains 22 aged widowers. Beneath the floor of the chapel lie the bodies of the founder and his wife, and over their remains is a brass with engraved figures.

On the opposite side of the street is an almshouse, founded by Isabella, Barstable's wife, for 24 aged women.

Also, on the north side of the street, is a third almshouse, founded by Alderman Stevens in 1679, for 16 widows or daughters of freemen. The interior is an oblong court, containing, at the further end, a bust of the founder, with the date 1725.

REMARKABLE HOUSES AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

Temple Street.—The original buildings of the Railway Terminus, of debased Gothic design, are of no merit. The Act for the construction of the Great Western Railway received the royal assent on 31st August, 1835, and the final opening of 118½ miles of line, from London to Bristol, took place on June 30th, 1841. The Bristol and Exeter line was opened May 1st, 1844. The Bristol and Gloucester Railway was opened July 8th, 1844.

The "Saracen's Head Inn," near the Terminus, is one of the hostelries that were confirmed and authorised in Bristol in 1606, but since that time has evidently undergone external change.

On the North side of Temple Street, disposed in a long quadrangle, are Dr. Thomas White's almshouses, named Temple Hospital. They are designed for 32 indigent people, who receive 6s. a week each. These houses were founded in 1613, but not more than ten of the present are of that date.

In a house, now removed, opposite White's Almshouses, was born (Nov. 2nd, 1636) Edward Colston, of philanthropic fame. A school of his endowment, for educating and clothing 25 boys is in this street.

The antecedents of the leaden figure of Neptune, which presides over the public fountain in Victoria Street, have never been satisfactorily explained. It is said to have been the donation of a plumber, and given to the city to commemorate the destruction of the Spanish Armada.

Thomas Street.—The "Three Kings Inn" is an old hostelry, identical with one of those licensed in A.D. 1606. The "Seven Stars," a mean looking public house in one of the branch lanes leading from this street to Redcliff Street, is mentioned by Thomas Clarkson as one, from whose landlord he gained much important information and assistance in getting up evidence against the slave trade, three or four slavers being then in the port, preparing for their nefarious voyages.

In *Pile Street*, a mean thoroughfare leading from the Terminus to the North side of Redcliff Church, is the free school of which Chatterton's father was one time master, and where, in the master's dwelling at the back, his gifted son was born. The young poet was a posthumous child, his father having died three months before his birth, which occurred on the 20th November, 1752.

Cathay is a district south of Redcliff Church. How the name is obtained does not seem clear, but possibly

its identity with the ancient name of Northern China is owing to some traders to that country having resided here. Cathay occurs in the Register of Redcliff Church as far back as A.D. 1603.

The *Shot Tower* on *Redcliff Hill* stands not only literally but metaphorically eminent, as being the first tower erected for the purpose of making patent shot. The letters patent are dated Dec. 10th, 1782, and were granted to William Watts, plumber, who first conceived, in a dream, the method since employed of causing molten lead to descend through a perforated frame from a great height into water, where, having suddenly congealed, the particles are found to have assumed a truly spherical shape. The experiment was first tried through a kitchen colander. The various processes employed in shot making are particularly interesting to witness.

In "some pent up rooms on Redcliff Hill," Coleridge finished, for the press, his first volume of poems, in 1796.

Jones' Lane, a corruption of *St. John's Lane*, opposite the west end of Redcliff Church, denotes the site of the small Hospital of St. John, where King Henry VI., with Margaret of Anjou, took up their temporary abode when at Bristol, in 1446. At the end of the lane is the Quakers' burial ground, which is colonised by many departed "friends," whose underground lodgings have only the initials of their occupants above the green turf. The red rock, which gives its name to the district, here boldly crops up, and, excavated at one point is the ancient hermitage of St. John the Baptist, consisting of a single chamber, with an Early English arch at the entrance.

In *Redcliff Street*, the house of most antiquarian interest is that known as Canynge's, now occupied by Mr. C. T. Jefferies, the well-known bookseller. It was built about the middle of the 15th century by the second William Canynge, and was doubtless a residence, with a chapel incorporated. The chief remains are a "Perpendicular" hall, with a high pitched ornamental roof, with a louvre in the centre. In 1500 this house was the residence of Thomas Brooke, steward of

Henry VIII., whose tomb, inlaid with brass, is in Redcliff Church. Behind the hall is an apartment with a highly enriched renaissance fireplace, and other carved decorations. The original floor of encaustic tiles is yet preserved. By the liberality of the occupier, this interesting mansion is accessible to any respectable visitor.

Bath Street was opened in 1792, its site being provided by the curtailment of Thomas and Temple Streets, and by the sacrifice of the greater part of Tucker Street. This latter was so called from its being entirely inhabited by clothiers or drugget makers, one of the ancient manufactures of Bristol. The weaving of cloth was brought from Normandy to Bristol, and clothmakers were called Toukers, from the German *tuch*, cloth, hence *tucking* mill, common in Somerset.

At No. 2, *Bridge Parade* (on the right to the approach to Bristol Bridge from the Temple railway) lived Burgum, the pewterer, to whose name his de Bergham ancestry, as elicited for 5s. by Chatterton, gave a meretricious gloss, even as lustrous as the sheen from his own pewter plates. Burgum's partner in trade was George Catcott, and it may be inferred that it was at their shop here, that Johnson and his satellite Boswell called on Monday, April 29th, 1776, to talk about the sad story of Thomas Chatterton, whose brief career had a few years before, so disastrously concluded. The house on Bridge Parade was being rebuilt at the time Chatterton waited upon Burgum, and is now a seed shop. On the same, or the adjoining, spot, towards the old bridge, was the mansion of the Rogers, one of whom, Sir Richard, here entertained, in 1663, King Charles II. and his Queen, James, Duke of York, Prince Rupert, and several noblemen. At the opposite side of the way was Sir Thomas Day's "great house," where Queen Anne, with Prince George, was, in 1702, entertained.

There are many old pictures showing Bristol Bridge margined with houses on each side, and a chapel at one end. Under the chapel was a vaulted chamber, which

was used for public purposes, and local records mention that in this gothic room the Earl of Surrey was on the 17th September, 1542, received at a banquet by the Mayor and Aldermen. This gentleman is perhaps best remembered as the romantic lover of the Fair Geraldine, who, when he was in Italy, according to the story, was revealed to him by Cornelius Agrippa in a mirror, reclining languidly on a couch, grieving for his absence, reading one of his love sonnets by a waxen taper. He might have interested the company at Bristol with a relation of many gay or sad scenes of court life, in which he had taken part, and which a few years after ended in the tragedy in which himself was the victim. He had been at the field of the cloth of gold, at the burial of Jane Seymour, at the trial of Anne Boleyn, and at the tournaments given in honour of the king's marriage with Anne of Cleves. In one of the overhanging picturesque houses of the old bridge was born in 1546, Toby Matthew, Archbishop of York, whose "misery of miseries" was the conversion of his son Sir Tobie to the Romish faith, which he himself had always hated and persecuted. Of 58 Roman Catholics, for the most part guileless men, without a thought of disloyalty to the reigning sovereign, but, who from conscientious motives preferred the heaviest punishment to taking the oath of allegiance, 40 perished in prison in the time of Archbishop Matthews through being thrust down into dark dungeons, loaded with irons, and starved. Hallam admits, and Father Morris proves, that the victims were often brought alive and fully conscious from the gallows to the quartering block, and their heads set up within sight of the Catholic prisoners. Archbishop Matthews was very unfortunate in his three sons. One he says had grace without wit, another wit without grace, and the third was witless, thriftless, and graceless.

The curious old pargetted house, where High Street turns into Wine street, is said to have been brought in pieces from Amsterdam, and here set up. A grotesquely carved bracket in the lower storey, within the shop window, bears the date 1676.

The house that stood on the opposite corner, adjoining Corn Street, has been rebuilt, but the spot will remain a classical one, for here stood the shop (now Hayward's, bookseller) of Joseph Cottle, the publisher—

Cottle, not he by Alfred made famous,
But Joseph of Bristol, the brother of Amos.*

who, in 1796, issued from his press the earliest edition of Coleridge and Southey's poems, in two separate volumes, for each of which he paid 30 guineas. In Cottle's parlour here, Wordsworth first committed to paper his grand poem on "Tintern Abbey," and Coleridge wrote part of his "Religious Musings" in the same room.

Under the shop, No. 22, here in High Street, is a fine vaulted cellar. Opposite, against the parapet of the house next above Burdge's, chemist, is a beautifully designed snow-box and shoot, bearing the date 1686.

At the top of High Street we are at the central point of the ancient town. At the spot where the four streets intersect, the High Cross stood for five centuries, until a timorous tradesman of one of the neighbouring shops complained of its being shaken by the wind, and threatening to fall, upon his house, which occasioned its removal to College Green, and ultimately from Bristol.

The High Cross is first mentioned in the Civic Annals in A.D. 1247, and is described as being the place where the market was held. It was re-erected in 1373, and within its niches were placed statues of John, Henry III., and Edward III., to which afterwards was added Edward IV. Here, as we have already intimated, in the troubled reign of Richard II., were executed Lord William Scrope, Earl of Wiltshire, Sir Henry Green, and Sir John Bushey, three of the most favoured courtiers of that weak monarch. It will enhance the interest of this spot when we remark that the scene of Shakespeare's "Richard II.," which describes Boling-

* Don Juan.

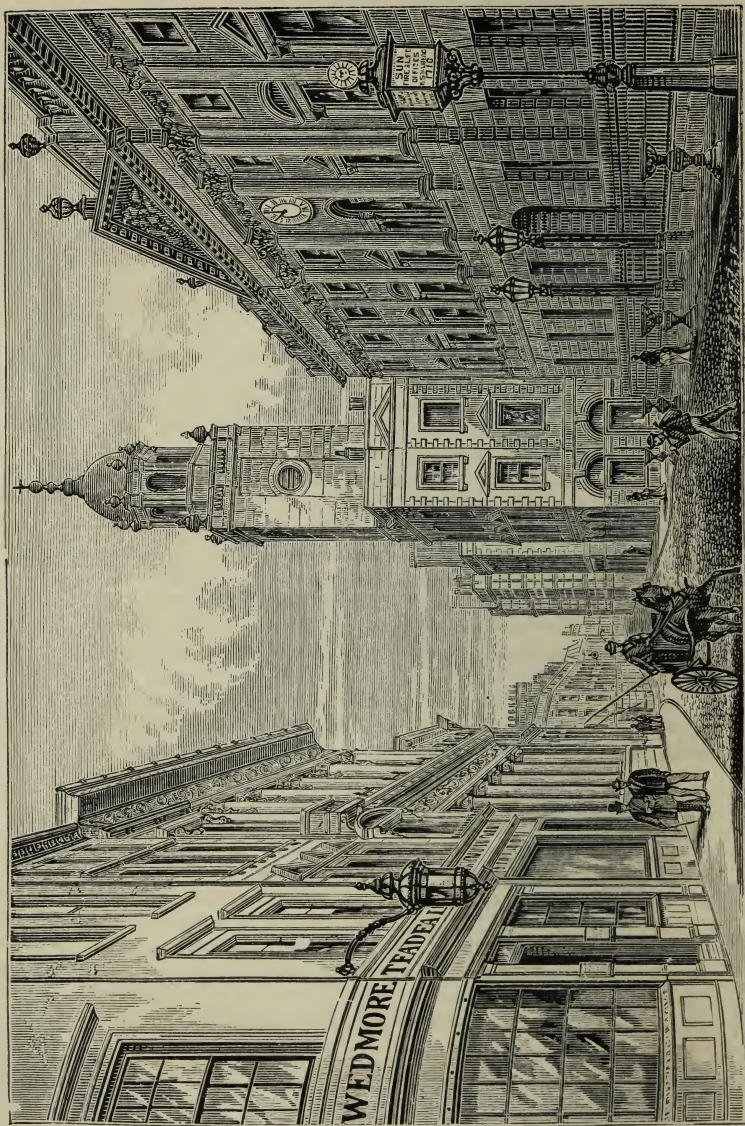
broke's merciless vengeance upon these unfortunate minions of an effeminate King, is associated with the carved symbol of man's redemption that here stood.

At the High Cross Henry VII., soon after his coronation was received with much pageantry; and in 1574 "Fame" in the form of an "excellent boy" having repeated here in the presence of Queen Elizabeth some verses hardly up to the mark of his name, "flung up a great garland to the rejoicing of all beholders." The Cross was removed to College Green in 1733, and finally to Stourhead, in which beautiful grounds it yet stands.

At right angles with High Street is Corn Street. On the site of the Council House stood St. Ewen's Church, which had its chancel end in Broad Street still preserved. The present, the third Council House, was built in 1821, at the expense of £14,600. The stairs are inlaid with brass devices. The Council Chamber should be visited for the sake of the interesting portraits of national and local celebrities.

Among these portraits may be seen that of Lord Burleigh (died 1598); this cost £3. King Charles I., by Sir Anthony Vandyke, and the Earl of Pembroke by the same hand. The family are stated to have offered to purchase this picture by giving as many sovereigns as would cover its surface. King Charles II., King James II., by John Hoskyns. James II., by Sir Godfrey Kneller. William and Mary, by More. Queen Anne, George I., and II., and Queen Caroline. Lord Ashburton, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, who was paid for it £105. The Duke of Portland by Sir Thomas Lawrence. George III., by E. Bird, R.A. Other and principally local portraits are Thomas White, Mayor in 1529; Robert and Nicholas Thorne; Sir Thomas White; Robert Cecil, Earl of Salisbury, who died in 1612; Alderman Whitson; Charles, Earl of Dorset (1691); Edward Colston; Sir Michael Foster; Lord Clare, and Sir Vicary Gibbs.

On the site of the West of England Bank stood the "Bush," in the old coaching days a city inn of first



CORN STREET, EXCHANGE.

importance. It was at the "Bush" that Dickens makes Mr. Winkle take up his quarters in his love lorn quest of the missing Arabella Allen, who was surmised to be hidden somewhere in Bristol or the neighbourhood.

An engraving in Barrett's "Bristol" exhibits against the street side of All Saint's Church, in Corn Street, a covered colonnade known as the Tolsey. This, till superseded by the Exchange, served as a "Rialto" for merchants to transact their business, and many a venturous enterprize on great waters has on this spot originated. The names of John and Sebastian Cabot, the Canynges, Sturmy, Thorne, and other navigators and merchant princes, who here discussed their projects and recounted events, are sufficient to indicate the interest of the spot. The fame of Bristol Tolsey was known to Sir Walter Scott, and in "The Pirate" the captain of the "Good Hope" of Bristol, tells Mordaunt of the fine luck his vessel had on the Spanish Main, both with commerce and privateering, and adds "My name is Clement Cleveland, captain and part owner, as I said before: I am a Bristol man born—my father was well known on the Tolsell—old Clem Cleveland, of the College Green."—"Pirate," vol. i. chap. viii.

The brazen tables in front of the Exchange formerly belonged to the Tolsey. They were used by the merchants there assembling for making payments, writing letters, &c. and from their form were sometimes called nails, which is said to have given origin to the frequent phrase to "pay down on the nail." The dates inscribed are severally 1594, 1625, and 1631, one, and apparently the oldest, being undated.

The Exchange, built 1740, is a greatly-admired piece of architecture, by Wood. The street front is of the Corinthian order; the interior is a fine quadrangle with colonnades. The cost of building was £50,000. Corn market on Thursdays.

Bristol Athenæum was opened by Lord John Russell, on 25th October, 1854.

In a house in Corn Street, next the Old Post Office,

lived honest John Duddleston, bodice maker, afterwards Sir John, who got his title through having entertained Prince George of Denmark, husband of Queen Anne, on his visit to Bristol in the time of James II. It is said that the Prince was wandering about the streets unrecognised, and would have had to thank the citizens for no hospitality except what he paid for, had not Duddleston discovered his rank and invited him to dinner. There is an amusing story in Corry and Evans' "Bristol" on the occurrence.

The Commercial Rooms were designed by C. A. Busby, and opened in 1811. *Small Street*, now for the most part occupied by public and private offices, at one time contained the residences of the most dignified townsmen. Of these was Edward Colston, whose house stood upon the site of the Assize Courts, included in which are the relics of some of the most ancient domestic architecture in Bristol. These remains are of the 12th century, and may be found in the Law Library. They consist of some clustered piers, with cushioned capitals, of a grand Norman hall, divided by two ranges of arches.* Several richly carved Renaissance chimney pieces are also preserved; and at the rear of the building is retained a beautiful range of panelled windows rising in three stages, of Tudor Gothic. The house known as the Elizabethan hall opposite the office of the Bristol Water Works contains, within a modern frontage, a highly enriched apartment of the 16th century, which exhibits a sumptuously carved fire-place, and a cross-ribbed, deep-moulded ceiling with bosses and pendants at the intersections. In this street lodged Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, the most favoured, at one time, of Queen Elizabeth's favourites. Charles I., with Prince Charles and the Duke of York, was entertained here, in 1643, by Colston, at the house first mentioned. The war beaten visage of Oliver Cromwell might also have been seen during many days in Small Street. In 1677 Queen Catherine dined here at (quondam) Colston's house, her host being Sir Henry Creswick. Charles II.

* See Parker's Dom. Arch., iii. 387.

and James II. lodged at No. 21, which adjoined Colston's residence, the latter being known as No. 20 until partially incorporated in the Assize Courts. At a later date the mysterious Johanna Southcot had apartments and a Chapel in Colston's house, and the exact spot identified with her ministrations is pointed out by Mr. Benjamin Wilson, the very intelligent clerk of the School Board.

A writer in the *Builder* characterizes the New Post Office as a "piece of threadbare classic design that might have come from the Board of Works." Many persons have a more favourable opinion of its merits, which, however, are certainly of no striking originality. All nationality of style must be considered renounced when buildings so incongruous in architectural design as the New Post Office and new Assize Courts are erected face to face at the same time. But our cosmopolitan feeling and reach, which include all foreign introductions and reproductions, are perhaps a somewhat qualifying reason for saying all things are ours, even the architecture of all nations, and countries, and times.

Running parallel with Small Street, in a line with High Street, is *Broad Street* which though one of the original streets has no antiquities to show. The Guildhall is a modern structure in the Tudor style, erected in 1846, on the old site. The earliest mention of the ancient Guildhall occurs in 1313, when it became the centre of a furious outbreak of the citizens against the military of the Castle consequent upon the appointment of certain officers by the King (Edward II.) to control the privileges of the burgesses, the authority of which officers was repudiated by the people. Nearly twenty persons were killed within the building, and many were seriously injured by leaping from the battlements and windows to effect escape. This was tragedy in earnest; but tragedy in less formidable character was also represented within the same precincts, histrionic actors under the protection of certain noblemen being hired by the magistrates to herein exhibit their pro-

fessional talents before the townspeople. The Lord Chamberlain's Company, to which Shakespeare was attached, occasionally performed here, and it has been ascertained by Mr. Halliwell that they visited Bristol in 1597, which was a time when Shakespeare was a leading actor. In 1685 the terrible Judge Jefferies opened here his sanguinary commission, the result of which was that six men were condemned and executed on Redcliff hill, for alleged conspiracy in the Monmouth Rebellion.

The Grand Hotel stands on the site of the White Lion, a once famous hostelry, among whose many memories were the lectures of Coleridge delivered in the large room.

Wine Street instead of deriving its name from some relation with the fruitage of the vine, is a misnomer for *Wynch* Street, that being the term of the Pillory or Collistrigium which once stood here. *Wynch* means a tourniquet or a windlass, as a "Winchwell," and the instrument of punishment was so named from being placed on a turning beam.

At the entrance to the *Guardhouse Passage* is a fine Decorated gateway, formerly belonging to the residence of William Yate, Mayor in 1596. The carved device of a gate, with the initials W. and C.B. on the brackets of the bow window over the arch is a rebus of his name. Opposite is the "Plume of Feathers," which was known as a hostelry in 1629, and preserves much of its original appearance. At the "Horse Shoe," once standing in Wine Street, Samuel Pepys made his first halt on his visit to this city in 1666. The house where Robert Southey was born (12th August, 1774,) still exists, being No. 9. In a visit to Bristol, Jan. 22, 1831, the poet remarks that he called at "Messrs. Goss and Fowler's, 9, Wine Street," to request permission to look over the house in which he was born.

Branching off from the north side of the street is the *Pithay*, so called from the Norman *puit*, a well and *hai* or *Hey*, a hedge or inclosure. Peering out into Wine

Street is a picturesque gabled house that shows evident traces of former dignity upon its ornamented front. The Pithay is a sort of local Seven Dials, and a curious rag-fair assemblage of shops is to be seen by a prying eye. The Baptist Chapel here situated was built about the year 1653. It has latterly been absorbed into Fry's colossal Chocolate and Cocoa Works, Union Street, which are not open to the public.

Opposite the entrance to the Pithay is an avenue into *St. Mary-le-port Street* one of the most characteristic thoroughfares of the old town. The "Swan" inn, at the south east end of the street, has a good ornamented barge board of the 15th century; other portions of the structure are of Tudor date. Some of the houses have the Brewers' Arms embossed on their front. The dark, overhanging tenements attached to the north aisle of the church have held their ground during at least three centuries. At the "Lamb" inn, one of these houses, the patriotic burghers of 1588, doubtless discoursed, over their brimming cups, the news of the defeat of the proud Philip's Armada at the very time when England rung with the first intelligence of the momentous victory. In the church records is an entry under the date 1580, 20th April, "Item, payd at the Lambe, xviiij."

At the south west corner of *St. Peter Street* is St. Peter's Pump, over the well of St. Edith. The well was sunk and surmounted by an openwork cross in 1474, by Spencer, Mayor of Bristol. The cross was rebuilt in 1633. It is now at Stourhead in neighbourhood with the Bristol High Cross.

In the accounts of St. Peter's Church is a charge of 1s. 6d., A.D. 1662, for "pullinge down of a May Pole put up at St. Peter's Plump." One might as soon expect to see a May Pole again overlooking the Strand as to see one now in the restless heart of Bristol.

In 1664 is an entry relative to Charles II. and his Queen passing in procession by the same fountain. "Paid Henry Hore, free-mason for mending the free-stone work over the plump against King Charles and Queen Catherine came to the city, for setting two new

arches over the pictures, and other work done as by his note appeareth, £1 3s."

St. Peter's Hospital, adjacent to the church, is, with its gabled frontage and profuse arabesque enrichments, a strikingly picturesque mansion. The earlier building, of which the eastern portion of the present structure is a part, is identical with that inhabited by Thomas Norton, who was reputed the most skilful alchemist of his time. The mansion passed from the Nortons in 1580, to the Newton family, of Barrs' Court, and in 1607 it was purchased by Robert Aldworth, merchant, who reconstructed the chief part, including the ornate frontage (except the east end) which we now see. The date 1612 is on the river front. In 1695 a mint was established here, and in 1698 it was converted into a work-house for the poor. The "court room" is highly enriched, the fire-place being a fine mass of Jacobean carving, and the ceiling and windows are in rich keeping.

The "Star inn," *Cock and Bottle Lane*, Castle Street, stands on the site of the Norman keep of the Castle. On this spot King Stephen lay in chains. The "Star" was a house frequented by Daniel Defoe when in Bristol.

At 3, *Narrow Wine Street* was born Matthew Wasbrough, the rival of James Watt in the invention, or rather the application of the crank and fly wheel to the steam engine.

The "Cat and Wheel" (Catherine Wheel) once at the entrance to *Castle Green*, is a quaint looking hostelry of 17th century date.

Castle Green Chapel was rebuilt in 1815. The congregation germinated on this spot as early as 1633, when meetings were held at the house of a carpenter within the precincts of the Castle.

Merchant Street is called by William Worcester, *Marshal Street*. It was a military way from the Castle to Kingsdown, which was the arena for military exercises and tournaments. We have before adverted to the interesting remains of the Dominican Priory in this

street. The almshouse of the Merchant Tailors' will attract a glance. There are nine decayed tailors or their widows, the allowance to each inmate being 7s. a week.

The Tabernacle, Penn Street, was opened in 1752 by the Rev. George Whitefield; the Earl of Chesterfield, of epistolary fame, being, in compliment to the reverend orator, one of the donors towards the erection of the building. In 1771 the Rev. Rowland Hill began his preaching career in this chapel.

In *Redcross Street* stands the house (No. 6) where in 1796 was born Sir Thomas Lawrence, whose portraits comprise a constellation of crowned heads.

The "Lamb inn," *West Street*, is a spacious hostelry bearing the date 1651. At this inn the fanatic James Naylor (celebrated by Carlyle) slept on his ill-starred entry to Bristol, Oct. 24, 1656.

From *Newfoundland Street* some of Coleridge's letters are addressed. The chapel here was adopted about 1809, by an antinomian section of the congregation of the Tabernacle. The first preacher was the extraordinary William Huntington, S.S. (*i.e.* sinner saved) who is the subject of an article by Southey in the *Quarterly*.

Having considered the central and northern, and eastern districts of the town, we will now return towards Bristol Bridge, and touch upon the localities southward and westward.

Baldwin Street retains nothing of interest except its traditions, of which the one most worthy of notice is that Henry II. here received his early education, under the care of one Matthews.* A chapel, dedicated to St Baldwin, once formed a part of the extensive messuage now called the Back Hall, but formerly Spicer's Hall.

On the *Welsh Back* exists a beautifully carved timber door, with panelled side posts and spandrils, of the Decorated period, which is now the sole remains of Spicer's Hall. Richard le Spicer was Mayor in 1371, and the style of this ancient relic of his mansion cor-

* Hollinshed—Stow—Seyer, 442.

responds with that date. The premises of Messrs. Franklyn, Davey, and Morgan, No. 12, Welsh Back, include a boldly carved staircase, and a splendidly enriched drawing room, with other remains of a fine mansion, showing evidently the residence at one time of some rich merchant. There is no prescriptive account of the house, but over the fire-place in one of the rooms is a shield with a monogram, which, together with the initials J. L. (and the date 1623), denote it to have been the abode of the Langtons.

The lofty brick-built granary of Messrs. Wait and James, at the south-east entrance to Queen Square, is particularly conspicuous in its ruby tints, and is a very successful work of its kind. The height is 100 feet. Architects, Ponton and Gough. Cost £6000.

King Street, in the Marsh, was built in 1664, and it still retains many of the original houses. The "Llan-doger Inn," and the adjoining tenements, are evidently referable to this date. Opposite these is the Coopers' Hall, erected in 1744; it presents rather a good frontage of the conventional Grecian pattern. Adjoining is an almshouse, erected in 1652, on ground next the then city wall. It is supported by the Corporation for the benefit of the parish poor. The City Library, in the same street, was established in 1614. In 1740, the present library mansion, without the wing, was built, at an expense to the city of £1301 8s. 1d. In the chief room is a gorgeously carved mantel-piece by Grinlin Gibbons. Chief Librarian, Mr. J. F. Nicholls.

The Theatre, in King Street, was opened in 1764, David Garrick, who surveyed the building before it was quite finished, pronounced it to be "the most complete of its dimensions in Europe." Among distinguished actors who have played here may be mentioned William Powell, Shuter, Mrs. Siddons, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kemble, C. M. Young, and Macready.

The Merchants' or St. Clement's Almshouse, adjoining the Merchants' Hall, is a neat little quadrangle, built on land where formerly stood a chapel to St. Clement. (There is accommodation for about 30 men

and women, poor sailors, or sailors' widows and daughters.) The Society of Merchants contribute largely to its support.

Opposite the Almshouse is an old-panel fronted, gabled-house, where once resided John Romsey, Town Clerk at the time of Judge Jefferies' sanguinary visitation, and where, 23rd September, 1685, he entertained that amiable administrator of the law.

The Merchant's Hall was rebuilt in 1701. It contains portraits of eminent merchants of Bristol, also one of Queen Anne, by Kneller.

The ground now occupied by *Queen Square*, so called from Queen Anne, who visited the city (18th May, 1702) while the houses were being built, was, in former days, called the Marsh, a name still preserved by the nomenclature of Marsh Street and Canon's Marsh. The bronzed equestrian statue of William III. was erected in 1735, after a model by Rysbach, and cost £18,000. At No. 15, Queen Square, the famous David Hume served a brief clerkship. He says:—"In 1734, I went to Bristol with some recommendations to eminent merchants, but in a few months found that scene totally unsuitable to me." The traditional reason of his summary departure was his presuming to correct the style of his employer's (Mr. Miller's) business correspondence. "I tell you what Mr. Hume," said the successful merchant, "I have made £20,000 by my English, and I won't have it mended."*

At No. 19, on the same side (the south) of the square, once resided Capt. Woodes Rogers, who discovered Alexander Selkirk, the original Robinson Crusoe, at Juan Fernandez. The same house has a farther interest in being that where Burke lodged in 1774, his entertainer being Mr. Joseph Smith.† On the east side of

* Lord Hailes remarks:—"Dr. Tucker, Dean of Gloucester, confirmed what I had formerly heard, that the master of David Hume, at Bristol, quarrelled with him for correcting errors in the style of his letters."—Hist. MSS. Com. Rep., iv., 532.

† Owen's Ceramic Art, p. 95.

the quadrangle was born, in 1751, Sir Nathaniel Wraxall, whose gossiping and somewhat scandalous memoirs have lately found a counterpart in those of Mr. Grevile. The whole of this (east) as well as the south side of the square has been rebuilt, in consequence of the original houses having been burned down in the riots of 1831. The area of the square is stated to be just that of the great Pyramid.

In the broad open space of *Prince's Street*, south of Queen Square, John Wesley frequently preached. The Assembly Rooms, once a fashionable concert hall, resounding with the merry music of harp, sackbut, and psaltery, has long lost caste, and *Cithara tollat curas*, the inscription on the forehead of the building, is only suggestive of the sweet memories of its past experience.

Leaving the Quay to the left we proceed through *Marsh Street*, where, Samuel Pepys tells us, his wife's "pretty maid," Deborah Willet, was born, and where the quaint old diarist visited her parents. The north end of Marsh Street opens into *Clare Street*, built in 1770, and named from Nugent, Lord Clare, who then represented the city in Parliament. At the house occupied as a drapery establishment by Messrs. Wintle, opposite the porch of St. Stephen's Church, was born, in 1793, Edward Bowdich, the Ashantee traveller.

Colston Hall, on *St. Augustine's Back*, stands on the site of the Carmelite Friary, which being abolished, was superseded by what was known as the Great House, where resided Sir John Young, who here received Queen Elizabeth and her court. In 1642 the house was inhabited by Sir Ferdinando Gorges. The Prince of Wales (Charles II.) slept here in 1645; also, on one occasion, his mother, Henrietta Maria; and, in 1687, James II. and his queen were guests in the same mansion. The old house was sold to the Colston Hall Company, who took it down for the purpose of erecting the present spacious hall. This was opened September 20, 1867. It is 150 feet long, 80 feet wide, and 70 feet high, and affords seats for 2500, beside orchestra accommodation for 500 more. Opposite Colston Hall

was a large red brick house, once the family mansion of the Fanes, Earls of Westmoreland, This has been lately destroyed.

In approaching *College Green* it will be confessed that the picture presented to the eye is singularly effective. St. Augustine's Church, the High Cross, the Cathedral, the Norman gateway of the Abbey, the Mayor's Chapel, the tree-shaded walks and greensward, together with the new hotel and handsome houses and shops, and the noble but acclivitous back ground of Park Street, combine to form an architectural tableau of which any city might be proud, and is a promising introduction to the picturesque suburb of Clifton,

On the site of the corner house, No. 7, nearly opposite the east end of the Cathedral, lived Mrs. Frances Ruscombe, who was mysteriously murdered, together with her maidservant, in open day, by some miscreant, whose identity was never ascertained. Their tragic fate has gained a somewhat classical notoriety from its forming an illustrative instance in De Quincey's strange paper on "Murder as one of the Fine Arts." This double murder occurred, between one and two o'clock, on Tuesday, 28th September, 1764. The house was robbed, Mrs. Ruscombe was found with her throat cut, and her maid with her head almost severed from her body. A large reward was offered for the discovery of the murderer, but no clue was obtained.

Erected upon the north cloisters of, and attached to, the former west end of the Cathedral, was the Minster house, where was born, in 1758, the beautiful and unfortunate Mary Robinson, otherwise "Perdita," who was playing that part in the *Winter's Tale*, when she attracted the attention of the "first gentleman in Europe," *alias* Florizel. In her 24th year, while travelling during the night in an open chaise, she induced a malady that terminated in violent rheumatism, which deprived her to the end of her life, in 1800, of the use of her limbs, insomuch that she was obliged to be carried about by an attendant.

At No. 48, *College Street*, lodged, in the year 1794, Robert Southey and S. T. Coleridge, who were then in ardent meditation on their utopian scheme of Pantisocracy, or universal brotherhood.

In 1795, Coleridge abode at No. 25, *College Street*, "one pair of stairs room." At No. 58, resided Mrs. Martha Fricker, Sara Coleridge's aunt. (See *Life of Sara Coleridge*).

The portico of the quondam Philosophical Institution (erected in 1820) is much admired for the classic purity and beauty of its design. The general contour is adapted from the Roman Temple of Tivoli, but the proportions are considered to be Grecian. The alto-relievo frieze is from the exquisite hand of E. H. Baily, who liberally presented this fine specimen of his sculpture to the Institution.

In *Trenchard Street*, behind the Colston Hall, is the Jesuits' Chapel, the oldest Roman Catholic Chapel in the city. From the Reformation until the accession of George II. the Roman Catholic faith showed but little signs of life in Bristol.

That "the Jesuits were the first to create and serve the Bristol Mission is a fact," says Dr. Oliver, "that I believe no reasonable man can doubt." St. Joseph's Chapel, *Trenchard Street*, still held by the Jesuits, was the first distinct building erected for the public worship of the Catholics. This was opened by Father Thomas Plowden, in 1790. The Roman Catholic pro-Cathedral in Meridian Place, was begun in 1834, and the first mass was said in 1842. In 1843, the church of the Irvingites, on the Quay, was purchased for £5,000, the expense of its erection having been £15,000.

In *Trenchard Street* Chapel lies interred the last male descendant of Sir Thomas More. He was born in 1722, and he died in 1785. Also here lies Patrick Cotter, the Irish giant whose prostrate form extends over more than eight feet of ground. His stature is variously stated at gradations from eight to nine feet; the coffin plate states eight feet one inch, and his memorial tablet eight feet three inches. He died in 1806, aged 46.

Christmas Street was so called by William Worcester (born A.D. 1415), who says it was otherwise named Knife or Knight's Smiths Street, of course for being inhabited by the cutlers and armourers. The arched entrance to the old religious hospital of St. Bartholomew we have already adverted to.

From Christmas Street we pass into *Lewin's Mead*, or, as it is called in deeds of the 14th century, Lowan's Mead. Here are still many quaint and picturesque houses but the street has undergone much reconstruction in recent years. The Unitarian Chapel stands on the site of the Franciscan Priory. The founder of the Lewin's Mead congregation was Mr. John Weeks, who had been ejected from Buckland Newton. The first chapel was built about 1693. The present structure was erected about 1790. While the work was going on, the congregation assembled on one part of the Sunday in the Independent Chapel, Bridge Street, it being customary for the Dissenters of Bristol, though differing widely on points of doctrine, to accommodate each other. In John Wesley's Journal, under the date 1790, Saturday, 25th October, we find "Mr. Hay, the Presbyterian minister of Lewensmead Meeting, came to desire me to let him have the use of our preaching-house on Sundays, at those hours when we did not use it ourselves (near ten in the morning and two in the afternoon), while the house was re-building. To this I willingly consented, and he preached an excellent sermon there the next day at two." Many years afterwards the Lewin's Mead Society lent their place of worship for several weeks to another Independent congregation, meeting in Castle Green; but when, more recently, the Unitarians applied for the loan of the Castle Green Chapel in return, the accommodation was denied.*

The Lewin's Mead Chapel has three aisles and three galleries, and is capable of seating 1000 persons.

On *St. James's Back*, a (now) grimy old street, leading from the north end of Lewin's Mead into Broadmead,

* Murch, 358.

was born, in 1415, the quaint antiquary, William Botoner, or Worcester. He was an earlier Leland, and, like him, having little imagination, he delighted only in meagre facts, these being mostly of a topographical or historical character. In his declining age his residence was adjoining St. Philip's Churchyard, where, like Friar Lawrence, he cultivated medicinal herbs, finding as well as he that

“Mickle is the powerful grace that lies
In herbs, plants, stones, and their true qualities.”

Broadmead Baptist Chapel, whose interesting records have been published by the Hansard Knollys Society, is distinguished by its pulpit having been successively occupied by two such gifted pastors as John Foster and Robert Hall. The first regular preacher here was Mr. Hardcastle, Vicar of Bramham, in Yorkshire, who relinquished his living by compulsion of the Act of Uniformity, and afterwards became a Baptist. He was appointed here in 1671.*

St. James's Upper and Lower Arcades were built in 1825. These are the Bristol ‘Holywell Street’ for old bookstalls.

Intersecting the Arcades is the *Horsefair*, the portion of which fronting St. James's Churchyard, presents many old pointed-roof houses.

At 29, *Portland Square*, died, in 1850, Jane Porter, the author of the “*Scottish Chiefs*,” which romance, Sir Walter Scott confessed to George IV., was the parent in his mind of the *Waverly Novels*.†

The Ship Tavern, a sign not now found in Milk Street, was in the last quarter of the 18th century kept by James Caldwell, whose out-door exercises comprehended exploits of the kind boasted of by Falstaff, at the Boar's Head, Eastcheap, and who with Ned Boulter, a companion in crime, finally appeased the offended majesty of justice at the gallows. Possibly beneath one of the present dwellings is yet the cavern where

* Broadmead Records, 76.

† *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1850, ii., p. 221.

these partners in depredation were wont to bestow their booty. Boulter was one of the most notorious highwaymen of his time, and the record of his career shows a curious series of villanies. At one time he robbed three postchaises each within sight of the other, and riding on escaped in front of them all. He was at length caught, and condemned to death, but on the morning appointed for his execution, he received a pardon on condition of a promise to reform his life and enter his Majesty's service. Accordingly he enlisted as a soldier. Growing tired of military discipline he deserted and came to Bristol. Entering the Ship public house, Milk Street, he soon formed an intimacy with the landlord, who agreed to go out upon the road in company with him. To begin business they resolved to provide themselves with two of the best horses in the neighbourhood, at the owner's expense. One was soon found in a field, and brought in the dead of night to Milk Street; and in course of time, a fine mare, valued at a hundred guineas, the property of Mr. Abraham James, of Brislington, was likewise secured. Mounted on these steeds they scoured highways and byeways, and on return from their marauding excursions deposited their plunder of watches and jewellery in a deep hole below Caldwell's cellar. Among those who were excited to raise the hue and cry after Boulter and Caldwell, was the father of Sir Thomas Lawrence the painter, who at his own expense sent out a party of horsemen to beat about for the robbers, but without success. They were at length taken at Birmingham, whither they had conveyed their spoil in order to convert it into cash. Being conducted to Bow Street, they were examined before Sir John Fielding, and committed to Clerkenwell prison. Boulter managed to escape from his dangerous confinement, and hanging his irons on a may-bush, returned to Bristol. He was again captured, and on 19th August, 1778, a dismal cart, bearing Boulter and Caldwell, passed slowly out of Winchester Castle, and proceeded to the gallows outside the city, where the career of the highwaymen

was concluded. In the course of their confession they gave an account of the contents of the robbers' den at Bristol, and thus many persons recovered their lost watches and jewels.*

The colossal premises of Derham Brothers correspond with the business accommodation necessary for two thousand persons engaged in the boot manufacture, the factory being the largest of the kind in this country. The factory system of foot-covering was first commenced by the present firm at Wrington, in the year 1843, and was transferred to Bristol about nine years afterwards. The export of ready-made shoes, which forms so considerable a feature of this house, is a revival of a species of commerce which was commenced at Bristol at least two centuries ago, but which probably was not long carried on, the vexatious restrictions on free-trade being at that period sufficient to discourage development of traffic. In January, 1657, leave was given by government to Mr. Ellis, of Bristol, to send 1000 dozen of shoes to Barbadoes, and another 1000 dozen in December,† we do not find there was any repetition in its kind of so extensive a trading transaction. The stock rooms of Derham Brothers would probably have humbled the pride of Mr. Ellis in the magnitude of his own stores. Two apartments, each not less than 140 feet in length, contain about 100,000 pairs of finished boots and shoes, while about half that number in addition are being under hand in other parts of the premises. The variety and complexity of the machinery, and the multifarious operations between the plain leather and complete boot or shoe, as well as the degrees of difference and contrast between the heavy hob-nailed boot of the navy, and the daintily embellished slipper of the belle of the ball-room are matters better to be understood by inspection than by description, but an excellent account of a visit to this enormous factory is to be found in *The Western Daily Press* of March 19, 1877.

* Highwaymen of Wiltshire, &c.

† Sainsbury's Col. State Papers I. 141.

Park Street was in process of building in 1762, in which year Hannah More removed from Trinity Street to the house, No. 10, at the lower end of Great George Street, now occupied by Mr. Lasbury, bookseller. Bishops, statesmen, poets, and actors were in continuous call at her residence; and she remarks that on one morning Edmund Burke, Dean Tucker, and Mrs. Macaulay (author of "The History of England") waited upon her in succession in Park Street.*

BERKELEY SQUARE, top of Park Street.—This handsome quadrangle was built in 1786. It stands upon the northern spur of Brandon Hill, the grassy slopes of which are immediately accessible to the inhabitants. These are all of the better class, there being here no lodging-houses.

The Blind Asylum is the first of a handsome range of buildings (erected in 1836) comprising in their extent the offices and chapel of that institution, in the early English Gothic style; and the premises occupied by the Rifle Head Quarters Club, Tudor Gothic in design. Strangers are admitted to view the Institution on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 11 to 12 and from 2 to 4 o'clock.

Appended to the Rifle Club House is the Drill Hall, one of the most spacious rooms unsupported by pillars to be found in England.

In 1871 the Philosophical Society removed to Queen's Road, where, in connexion with the Bristol Library Society, they now centre their activity in a spacious Venetian Gothic building, erected for the joint purposes of Literature and Science. The Geological collection here is unusually good. In the hall is a marble bust (cost £126) of Sir Tho. Lawrence, R.A. (a native of Bristol) by E. H. Baily. The statue of Eve at the Fountain (cost £630), by the same sculptor, is acknowledged to be one of the finest pieces of modern sculpture. The Library numbers about 40,000 volumes.

The newness of the buildings must be no argument for the recent establishment of the Library and Museum.

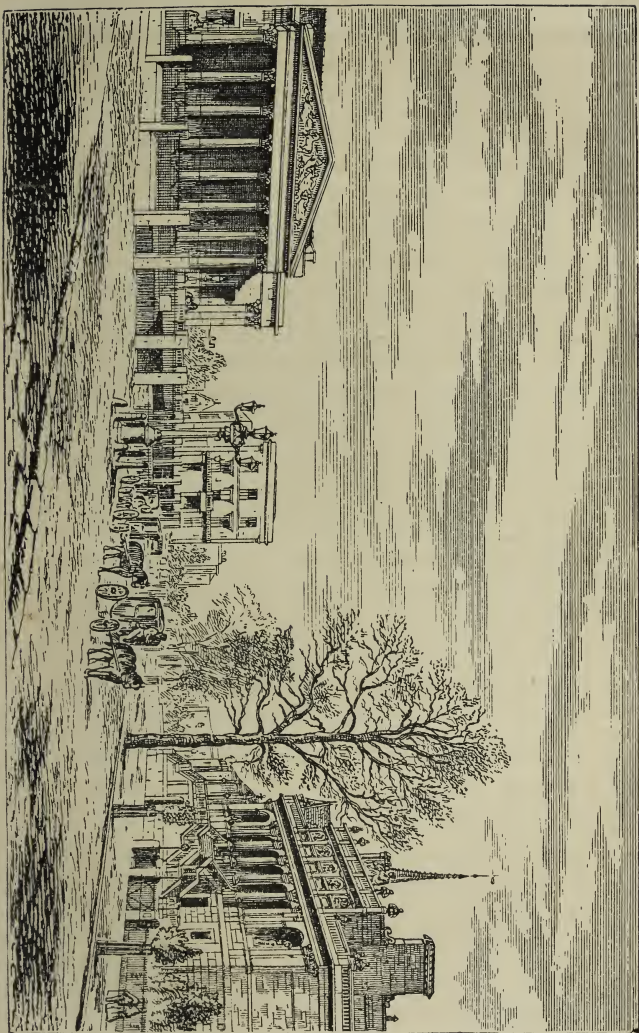
* See Taylor's Clifton, p. 38.

The former dates back to 1770 and the latter to 1820. Among the earlier associates of the Library may be found the names of S. T. Coleridge, W. S. Landor, Robert Southey, and Sir Humphrey Davy.

The new Bristol University College was opened without formal ceremony on Oct. 10th, 1876, until proper buildings are provided. The educational work is carried on in temporary premises, Park Row. Of £40,000, the capital estimated to place the design on a secure foundation, two-thirds have been subscribed. To the sum realized, the Balliol New College, Oxford, have largely contributed, with the understanding that the interests of literature, as well as physical science, shall be regarded, and that the masters of each of these colleges shall share in the management. The scholarships offered are:—One chemical, £25; three general, £15 each, tenable for one year; and four for women; two years, £15 each, with increase to the sum of £50 if necessary. All the classes except the Bristol Medical School are accessible to women. Up to December the number of Students was 367.

The Victoria Rooms, for public meetings, balls, assemblies, etc., were opened in 1841. The largest apartment is 117 feet long by 55 feet wide, and 47 feet in height. This building was designed by Dyer. It is partly Grecian and partly Egyptian in style, which modes being judiciously combined, the structure has an imposing effect. Thackeray read his lectures on the "Four Georges" in these rooms; and Dickens here delivered several of his popular readings.

The Fine Arts Academy is an ornamental building, in the Venetian style of architecture, opened in 1857. It owes its existence chiefly to a donation and legacy from Mrs. Sharples, whose portrait may be seen in the gallery. The building contains a standard collection of paintings, many of them the work of the Rev. John Eagles. Some fine pictures, also of modern execution, have been liberally presented by Robert Lang, Esq. The Academy is likewise much indebted to Henry Andrewes Palmer, Esq., and Sir Henry



VICTORIA ROOMS AND FINE ARTS ACADEMY.

Rawlinson ; the former of whom is the donor of a fine marble bust of Ariadne, and the latter of important antiques from Nineveh.

In connexion with the building is the Bristol School of Art, for comprehensive instruction in Drawing, etc., under the superintendence of Mr. J. N. Smith.

Victoria Wesleyan Chapel, adjoining the Fine Arts Academy, was erected in 1863. The combined cost of ground and building was about £6000. The style in the earlier part of the fourteenth century Gothic. Architects, Foster and Wood.

Trinity Chapel, White Ladies' Road, was opened in 1866. This is likewise Gothic, but more purely English in its character than the last mentioned.

Buckingham Chapel, a chaste Gothic building, belonging to the Baptists, is situated opposite Richmond Terrace, Queen's Road. It was opened in 1847.

Hope Chapel, Granby Hill, (Independent,) is so named from Lady Henrietta Hope, second daughter of the Earl of Hopetown, to whom, and Lady Glenorchy, the structure owes its foundation. It was built in 1786. The Rev. William Jay, of Bath, formerly supplied the pulpit here.

Pembroke Independent Chapel, Oakfield Road (a branch from White Ladies' Road), is now in process of construction.

Redland Park Congregational Chapel was erected in 1861.

The Unitarian body have a fine Gothic chapel (erected in 1864) in Oakfield Road.

The Roman Catholic Cathedral, in Meridian Place, would have been a magnificent building if the original design for its construction had been carried out, but a failure in funds caused a hurried conclusion of the work by the omission of every adjunctive feature and detail undemanded by the exigencies of worship. It was opened by Bishop Ullathorne, in 1848. A Romanesque façade of great merit has (1877) been added by Mr. Chas. Hanson, architect. The Roman Catholic Bishop of Clifton is the Hon. and Right Rev. William

Clifford. A convent of the Sisters of St. Catherine of Sienna lies below the cathedral.

Jacob's Wells.—Opposite Brandon Hill Police Station and just below the N.E. corner of Lower Clifton Hill, formerly stood the theatre that superseded one in Stokes' Croft. It was built about A.D. 1726 by John Hipposley, the original Peachum of the "Beggars' Opera"; who lived in a house adjoining the theatre, lately destroyed to provide a site for the model lodging houses. Hipposley, in 1732, held with Fielding, the author of *Tom Jones*, the Great Theatrical Booth at Bartholomew Fair.

Between the Playhouse and Lower Clifton Hill was a large brewhouse, which still partially remains. This building was afterwards used as a distillery, but about the year 1796 was reconverted into a brewery by Henry Hunt, the celebrated popular politician and blacking manufacturer, who here failed in business.

At the house (now Jones', baker,) Lower Berkeley Place, was born, in 1809, Joseph Sortain, known as Sortain of Brighton, author of "*Hildebrand and the Emperor*," and one or two other religious fictions. He also contributed articles to the *Edinburgh Review*, and the *British Critic*, but is better known by his eloquent preaching in the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion at North Street Chapel, Brighton. Upon the publication of his volume of sermons, he forwarded a copy to Thackeray who had probably heard one or more of them delivered, for the author of *Vanity Fair* had been much struck by the preacher's oratory and had introduced himself to Mr. Sortain in consequence. The reply of the great satirist was as follows, and it shows his seriousness on serious things.

"MY DEAR SIR,—I shall value your book very much, not only as the work of the most accomplished orator I ever heard in my life, but, if you will let me so take it, as a token of good-will and interest on your part in my own literary pursuits. I want, too, to say in my way, that love and truth are the greatest of Heaven's commandments and blessings to us; that the best of us, the

many especially who pride themselves on their virtue most, are wretchedly weak, vain, and selfish; and to preach such a charity at least as a common sense of our shame and unworthiness might inspire to us poor people. I hope men of my profession do no harm who talk this doctrine out of doors, to people in drawing-rooms and in the world. Your duty in church takes them a step higher, that awful step beyond ethics which leads you up to God's revealed truth. What a tremendous responsibility is his who has that mystery to explain! What a boon the faith which makes it clear to him! I am glad to have kind thoughts from you, and to have the opportunity of offering you my sincere respect and regard.

‘ Believe me most truly yours,

‘ My dear Sir,

W. M. THACKERAY.

‘ *May 15th, 1850.*

‘ P.S.—Your book finds me at my desk, writing, and I leave off to begin on a sermon.”

Bishop Coplestone used to call him his jewel of a Nonconformist; and Sir James Stephen speaks of his power of expounding abstruse or popular truths as exceedingly remarkable.

No vestige of mediæval domestic architecture is discoverable in Clifton; and though the existence of a church here for several centuries is sufficient evidence of some population, yet we believe no tangible relic of occupation is to be found of any date between the departure of the Romans and the seventeenth century.

There can be no doubt that Clifton is the parent of Bristol, for though traces of the Roman invader have been detected at the latter place, yet the earlier foot-steps of the rude Briton are still to be seen at the former. The defensive earthwork, or, as it is commonly termed “camp,” on the Observatory Hill, together with the related works on the opposite side of the river, are considered by antiquaries to have been thrown up by the Belgic British before the Roman conquest of the country. These works are respectively known by

the names of Clifton, Bower Wall, and Stokeleigh Camps, the first of the two latter being on the southern summit of the deep glen called Nightingale Valley, and the second on the opposite point of the same ravine.

Bower, or Borough Walls Camp, existed a few years since in its original state, but has been deliberately and wantonly destroyed only recently. It exactly resembled the fortified post of Caractacus, which was described by Tacitus* "to have been a situation surrounded by difficult hills, and if on any side the approach was easy, he piled up stones in the form of a rampart; and a river of uncertain depth flowed by the frontier of the place." It was triangular in form, and protected on two of its sides by the natural acclivities of its elevated situation; the remaining side was defended by a vallum, consisting of a double fosse and triple agger, which appears to have been raised by stones piled up on it, and then calcined into lime, the work of a later period. The area within the vallum was about seven acres.

Stokeleigh Camp, on the opposite point of Nightingale Valley, is like in character to Bower or Borough Walls Camp. It measures 12 feet in height above the area, and is drawn curvilinearly from the northern declivity of the ravine just named, to the top of the descent of the next combe, a distance of 225 yards. A second and stronger vallation, in places 30 feet above the bottom of the fosse, is drawn concentrically within the first. The ruins of a stone wall, four feet thick, constructed without mortar, are visible along the top of this inner vallum. A third and smaller rampart is, or rather was, within the two former. Both ditch and mound are now picturesquely overgrown with trees and rank vegetation, and the view between the ramparts, arched over with meeting foliage, is like the vista through a narrow umbrageous glen, so considerable are the dimensions of this work.

The outlines of the station on the Clifton side, notwithstanding the incessant traffic over its remains, are

* Annals. xii. 33.

still comparatively perfect. Its situation is about 300 feet above the bank of the river, the precipice forming its defence on the western side. Its remaining circuit is secured by two artificial ditches, forming three ramparts, the inner of which is about 300 yards in compass from cliff to cliff. The principal entrance was on the north-east side, with two narrow footways close to the summit of the precipice, the one at the western, the other at the southern point. From the point at Clifton a beacon fire might be distinguished at the related stations of Kingsweston, Blaise Castle, Knoll and Old Sodbury.* We will parenthetically mention the system of Camps to which those of Clifton are related.

Kingsweston Camp, three miles N. from Clifton, consists of three banks and ditches, that conform to the natural shape of the ground. It is about 100 yards from S.E. to N.W. and 64 from S.W. to N.W.

Blaise Hill consists of two banks and ditches, with a stone road called the Foss-way, leading up to the north-east side, at the top of which is an entrance, another entrance being towards Kingsweston Hill.

Knoll Park, near Almondsbury, commands an extensive and unintercepted view of the Severn. The earth-work coincides with the shape of the ground, and Knoll House is built within its area. The entrance seems to have been at the north-east end.

Elberton, nearer the Severn, "stands on a projecting point of the same level as that on which Knoll stands." It consists of two banks with a ditch between them, and is a parallelogram of about 100 yards.

At *Oldbury*, a quarter of a mile from the Severn, many Roman coins have been found; it at present consists of two sides of a square, the other parts having been levelled. The church is built within the area of the entrenchment.

Abby is a much mutilated work standing near the eleven milestone in the road from Bristol to Gloucester. *Bloody Acre*, the next station, is at Tortworth, and has been planted with trees. Nearly in a line with Blaise

*Seyer, 61; Barrett, 10; Archæolog. xix., 172.

Castle to Old Sodbury is another on Bury Hill, about a mile from Winterborne. It has two ramparts with a fosse between, and is about 200 yards long and 100 broad. Near Dyrham is *Hinton Hill*, where there is a camp enclosing 20 acres. This was occupied in A.D. 577 by Ceawlin the third King of Wessex, who here defeated the Britons in a battle that decided the fate of South Britain. Three native kings, Cornail, Condidan, and Farinmail were killed in the fight, and as a further result the three important cities of Gloucester, Cirencester, and Bath, were taken by the Saxons.* "This," says Dr. Freeman, "was the last heathen conquest waged by the West Saxons against the Britons."†

Little Sodbury, four miles east from Yate, is an undoubted Roman work." From its position, says Mr. Grover, "on the crest of a lofty ridge, whose steep slope is to the west, we see at a glance that the advance of the Roman army was from south-east to north-west, and that the line of their approach was that of the same ridge of hills, extending north-east from Keynsham. By the position of the camps on the other or Cadbury ridge, we see the line of the defenders, who were falling back on the Bristol Channel and Wales."‡

Sodbury Camp is an oblong about 300 yards long and 200 yards broad. Queen Margaret took up her position on this hill, on her march from Bristol to Tewkesbury, but was dislodged by Edward IV., who personally encamped on the same spot for one night.

Horton and Westridge succeed Sodbury; when we come to Stinchcombe Hill, which commands a prospect famous for its extent, including in its range the broad estuary of the Severn, and the Malvern and Welsh hills. On the highest point are three banks and ditches.

Uley Bury, the next entrenchment, is one of the largest and most remarkable of the series. It stands

* Anglo-Saxon Chron., Turner's Anglo-Saxons, i. 162.

Guest's Early Eng. Settlements in G. Britain, Pro. Arch., Inst., Salisb., 71.

† Arch. Jnl., xvi., 106, Guest and Freeman, Norm. Conq.

‡ Journ. Brit. Arch. Assoc., March 31, 1871.

823 feet above the sea, and covers 32 acres. It was held by the Romans, but had been previously occupied by the British. There is a famous series of ancient sepulchral stone chambers near the spot.

On *Broadridge Green*, above Haresfield, is an earthwork about 900 yards long, to which responds *Painswick Beacon*, on the highest point of the Cotswold Hills. This chain of forts stretched on to Bredon hills, and, inasmuch that some of them are unquestionably Roman works, and others bear traces of having been adopted by the Romans, it appears probable that this is the line of stations referred to by Tacitus, who says that Ostorius Scapula (who succeeded Aulus Plautius in the government of Britain about A.D. 50), in order to keep in subjection the conquered territories, and to repel the irruptions of the tribes beyond, established a system of fortresses between the Avon and Severn, *cinctos castris Antonam et Sabrinam fluvios cohibere*.*

Cadbury Camp, which we have spoken of as having been held by the British to guard the approach to South Wales, is 594 by 561 feet, and contains about 23,000 cubic yards of earthwork, to throw up which would occupy 6000 men 12 hours.†

IN *Leigh Woods*, opposite Cooke's Folly, is a ruinous building which gains dignity from its situation. There is no path to it, a circumstance that Southey thought might afford him an incident for his fancy to work upon in a contemplated poem upon the scenery of Clifton. The ruin upon near inspection is of no architectural pretensions, and seems to have been intended for a summer lodge of the Leigh estate. The walls are about three feet thick, and are of 18th century date.

The thermal waters and the rock diamonds were for several centuries co-rival attractions to Clifton visitors.

* Tac. Annales, xii., 31, see Archæologia, vol. xiv. 174.

† Grover.

The earliest mention of the former is by William Worcester, in 1460, who speaks of their rushing from the base of the rock, they being then unenclosed. He, however, relates nothing of their medicinal character. This is traditionally said to have been accidentally discovered by some sailors about the year 1630, who washing in the water at low tides and freely drinking of it, were healed of scurvy which they had contracted on their past voyage. Two years before this date however we find a visit of the celebrated statesman, Bulstrode Whitelocke, recorded, who, "leaving Bath, came to Bristol, where the hotwell of St. Vincent had only been found a short time before, though already famed for the cure of the leprosy and the stone," if drunk in a large quantity. (Life 49).

De Foe speaks of the vast number of bottles made in the Bristol Glass houses, that were in his day "used for sending the water of St. Vincent's Rock, not only all over England, but we may say, all over the world." In a Doctor's or Apothecary's bill, under the date Oct. 30, 1749, quoted in the "Medical Times," is charged, with other items, a bottle of Bristol water, 1s.

The small brilliant quartz or rock crystals found in the limestone of the Clifton Rocks were formerly used for cheap jewellery, and many allusions are to be found in satires upon the fashions and follies of bygone days of these additions to personal finery.

"Nor can good Mysore wear on his left hand
A signet ring of Bristol Diamond,
But he must cut his glove to show his pride
That his trim jewel may be better spied."

Bp. Hall's Satires.

Also,

"Oh you that should in choosing of your own
Knowe a true diamond from a *Bristowe* stone."

Wit Restor'd, 1658.

Again,

"The sap the stalking hero wore
Was set with Bristowe gems before."

Hudibras Redivivus, Vol. II. p. 3. 1707.

In one of the State Papers of James I., is mention of these brilliants being supplied by Sir John Young to Sec. Cecil, for the decoration of the royal palace at Theobald's. By the kind favour of Major Austin, we supply a copy of Sir John Young's letter upon the matter to the Lord Treasurer. Right hon.: "At my being at London, I was entreated by Mr. Blagrove to help the same to some of the precious stones of St. Vincent's Rock, near Bristol, to help finish a device in the great chamber of Theobald's; your lordship's name sufficed me to use all diligence. I have sent off great and small in a chest, and a Buckram bag therein enclosed, above 2000, to London, and for that there be no slackness in the ending of the said device, I have sent this my servant to inform your lordship thereof, and to deliver them there, with whom and where you shall appoint, and so accept, my good lord, that *in rebus magnis, est voluisse satis*, and what I may to the uttermost is for your lordship to dispose of, with hearty prayer to the Almighty to preserve your honour in all felicity.

The Clifton Hotwells, as a place of fashionable resort have had their day; but "the power, the beauty, and the majesty" that have their haunt among the rocks and woods, will attract residents and visitors to the heights of Clifton as long as these elements of the scenery endure.

Those who care for anecdotes of the fashionable life at Clifton in the last century may be referred elsewhere:* it may suffice to give Miss Burney's idea of one phase of it, as expressed in one of the letters in "Evelina."

After being here about a fortnight, she encounters some fashionable acquaintances whom she had in London.

Letter LXII.—EVELINA to the REV. W. VILLARS.

"This morning, on my way to the pump room with Mrs. Selwyn, we were both very much incommoded by three gentlemen, who were sauntering by the side of the Avon, laughing and talking very

* Taylor's Clifton.

loud, and lounging so disagreeably, that we knew not how to pass them. They all three fixed their eyes very boldly upon me, alternately looking under my hat, and whispering one another. Mrs. Selwyn assumed an air of uncommon sternness, and said, 'you will please, gentlemen, either to proceed yourselves, or to suffer us.'

'O ma'am,' cried one of them, 'we will suffer *you* with the greatest pleasure in life.'

'You will suffer us *both*,' answered she, 'or I am much mistaken; you had better, therefore, make way quietly; for I should be sorry to give my servant the trouble of teaching you better manners.'

Her commanding air struck them, yet they all chose to laugh; and one of them wished the fellow would begin his lesson, that he might have the pleasure of rolling him into the Avon; while another advancing to me with a freedom which made me start, said, 'By my soul I did not know you!—but I am sure I cannot be mistaken; had not I the honour of seeing you once at the Pantheon?'

I then recollected the nobleman, who, at that place, had so much embarrassed me. I courtied without speaking. They all bowed, and making, though in a very easy manner, an apology to Mrs. Selwyn, they suffered us to pass on; but chose to accompany us.

'And where,' continued this lord, 'can you so long have hid yourself? do you know I have been in search of you this age? I could neither find you out, or hear of you: not a creature could inform me what was become of you. I cannot imagine where you could be immured. I was at two or three public places every night, in hopes of meeting you. Pray did you leave town?'

'Yes, my lord.'

'So early in the season!—what could possibly induce you to go before the birthday?'

'I had nothing, my lord, to do with the birthday.'

'By my soul, all the women who *had* may rejoice you were away. Have you been here any time?'

'Not above a fortnight, my lord.'

'A fortnight!—how unlucky that I did not meet you sooner! but I have had a run of ill luck ever since I came. How long shall you stay?'

'Indeed, my lord, I don't know.'

'Six weeks I hope: for I shall wish the place at the devil when you go.'

'Do you then, flatter yourself?' &c.

Soon after they arrive at the pump room, which terminates the conversation.

Felix Farley's Journal of the 7th Jan., 1804, believes that Clifton had seldom presented such an assemblage of beauty and fashion as, attracted by Her Grace the Duchess of Devonshire and her accomplished daughter, appeared at the Master of the Ceremonies' ball, on

the 3rd day of the new year. The room was crowded to overflow, nearly 500 persons being present. The assembly room at the Hotwells yet stands, but we question if a person of "fashion" has deigned to look at it during the present generation.

The old Church, like the present, dedicated to St. Andrew, was given in the reign of Henry II., by William de Clifton to the Abbey of St. Augustine's, Bristol. The patronage is now held by the Simeon Trustees. The former building was small and unpretentious, and was rebuilt, except the tower, in 1654. The present structure was opened 12th Aug., 1822. The churchyard with its leafy avenue and crowd of crosses is very striking.

Near the Church is the fine mansion where resided the late Dr. Symonds, whose "Miscellanies" have been lately edited by his son. The house was erected in 1742 for Paul Fisher, Esq., after a design by Isaac Ware, in whose "Complete Body of Architecture" an engraving of it is to be found. It is now the residence of the gifted author of the "Renaissance in Italy."

Goldney House, the Estate of Lewis Fry, Esq., has been lately rebuilt. The grounds are laid out in the style of landscape gardening of the last century;—including a grotto that once had much fame. Mrs. Delany and John Wesley, among other celebrities, have recorded their impressions of a visit to this sparkling artificial cave.

From Manor House, in Clifton Place, is dated a letter of John Sterling to T. Carlyle. Sterling wrote at Clifton the article on Carlyle himself, that, appearing in the *Westminster Review*, gave the distinguished subject of it the first clear conviction "that one's poor battle in this world is not quite so mad and futile, that it is perhaps a worthy and manful one."

The Royal York Crescent whose fine curve is repeated in the catenary of the Suspension Bridge, was built at the beginning of the present century. At No. 3, the Empress Eugenie received her early education. At No. 36, Mrs. Piozzi resided in 1820.

Manilla Hall, built (1770) by Sir William Draper, one of the butts and adversaries of the celebrated Junius, is now the residence of Dr. C. T. Hudson, who here conducts the chief private school of Clifton and the neighbourhood. At No. 4, Harley Place, died the eloquent philosophic writer, Mrs. Schimmelpenninck.

John Wesley mentions a visit (Saturday, 13th March, 1790) to Granby House, below the west end of the Royal York Crescent, the widow of Governor Johnstone, (who died at the Hotwells two years before) being then, he says, lodging at that house she several times attended his preaching, "and seemed to be much affected," and "quite willing to know the truth and to be altogether a christian."

Windsor Terrace is a row of first-class houses, crowning the first height of St. Vincent, and overlooking the Avon. The foundations of this terrace were effected at the cost of one Watt, the inventor of patent shot. It is said that Mr. Watt conceived in a dream the idea of causing molten lead to descend from a great height, which, having divided into particles by its fall, would, on being suddenly congealed in water at the bottom of the descent, assume a truly spherical shape. This method of shot-making being, on experiment, found to answer, a patent was obtained. A successful career in business, with the ultimate disposal of his patent, found Watt the possessor of £10,000. This sum he entirely expended in building the foundation of Windsor terrace; and for want of further funds, he was unable to proceed with the superstructure, For a long while the unfinished work was known as Watt's folly. At No. 4 in this terrace died Mrs. Hannah More. Perhaps no female name among the lettered community of the last age is more known than that of this accomplished lady. In her own day she was personally as popular as her writings, which is saying much; for these gained her the substantial applause of £30,000, and were an inexhaustible topic of discourse.

Christ Church, Clifton Park, is a building in the early English style. The interior hardly corresponds with

the exterior, being meagre and tasteless in its architectural features. It was erected in 1844, and cost £10,000; with an additional £2,400 for the tower and spire, built in 1859.

All Saints' Church, Pembroke Road, erected by Mr. Street is of higher architectural pretensions than any other modern church in the Bristol district. It cost £37,000, which sum was raised by voluntary offerings. The cathedral-like magnitude of the building is in keeping with the ponderous severity of its construction; taken as a whole it is a noble and imposing building, and, if as an architectural experiment it be not a splendid success, is magnificent even as a failure. The church was consecrated June 9th, 1868.

The Suspension Bridge, whether considered for elegance of design or romantic situation, may be fairly considered one of the most effective pieces of modern civil engineering. The history of this remarkable work is concisely as follows:—Mr. Alderman Vick, a wine merchant of Bristol, having conceived the practicability of connecting the precipitous shores of the Avon by a stone bridge, bequeathed, in 1753, the sum of £1000 in trust to the Merchant Venturers, to be invested until by interest it had increased to £10,000, when it was to be applied to the construction of a bridge of stone which should be toll free. For eighty years the dormant legacy gathered interest, until, in 1830, it amounted to £8000. An Act of Parliament was then obtained, to enable the trustees of the money to apply it to its intended purpose. Mr. Brunel's plan was selected; the estimated cost of which was £57,000, and on the 27th of August 1836 the foundation stone was laid.

The work went on slowly until the year 1843, when the funds which had been subscribed, including Vick's £8000, amounting altogether to £45,000, were expended, which caused the work to be abandoned. For twenty years the unpicturesque abutments and piers seemed likely to serve as enduring monuments of the short-sightedness of men who had begun to build a tower, the cost of finishing which they had not before-

hand sat down to consider. Fortunately for the project, in the year 1860, the materials of the Hungerford suspension bridge, which had been taken down for railway innovation, were reported to be constructively eligible for the uncompleted design of Brunel at Clifton. A new company was thereupon formed, with a capital of £35,000, in £10 shares, and a second Act of Parliament was procured to enable them to go on with the work. The existing stone towers of the bridge, together with the ground on both sides the river, were purchased from the original company for £2000, and the chains of the Hungerford bridge were obtained at a cost of £5000. The process of construction was recommenced and carried uninterruptedly to completion by Messrs. Hawkshaw and Barlow; the contractors were Messrs. Cochrane and Co. of Dudley. It was opened on 7th December 1860.

Each of the chains is anchored at its ends 70 feet under ground, into the solid rock. The height of each tower is 70 feet. The bridge itself weighs from 1,400 to 1,500 tons, and is estimated to bear 7000 tons. The floor of the bridge is 245 feet above high water, and the distance from centre to centre of the piers is 702 feet.*

Of the epigrams that appeared at the conclusion of this fine work, perhaps the most terse and pointed is the following:—

“Long in suspense, I’m now suspended;
So hung in chains, my shame is ended.”

Leaving Cotham behind, with the ivy-mantled tower, the shell of a windmill in the grounds of Mr. Francis Fry, we proceed down lovers’ walk. Beneath the branches of this long drawn aisle of living columns, John Wesley is said to have composed some of his fervid hymns, which have certainly never reached high Heaven by way of any nobler cathedral than this Gothic nave of arching foliage, under whose shade they were conceived.

* See History of the Clifton Suspension Bridge, by Lewis Wright.
J. Wright & Co. 1/-

Redland Court, to which this lofty avenue of elms is the purposed introduction, with the clanging rookery adjoining, is the residence of Mr. G. O. Edwards; but the mansion, which is in the Italian style, was erected in 1730, by Mr. John Cossins, as was also the pretty little heathen-looking temple on Redland green. This is a chapel of ease to the mother church of Westbury. Just below the front of the green is an old historical house, now much rebuilt, and divided into tenements (known respectively as Grenville-house and Richmond-house), where formerly lived Captain Hill, with whom Prince Rupert took up his quarters, pending the siege of Bristol, in 1643.

L In treading across the green expanse of Durdham Down, probably only few people for a moment reflect upon the long past day when hyenas, tigers, elephants, and bears roamed in their natural state of liberty over this airy upland. But a large collection of the bones of these animals may be seen at the Museum and Library, which were discovered in one of the limestone quarries on the Down, and the well-known geologist, Major Austin, was present at their disinterment.

That many a soldier of Cæsar has driven his rattling war chariot over the stony tract still rising in a long swelling line above the green turf, we have the existence of the Roman causeway itself, besides other remains in the neighbourhood, to testify. The second or Britannic legion, which arrived in Britain under the command of Vespasian, was, after the reign of Antoninus Pius, quartered at Caerleon on Usk, (Caer Legionis, *i.e.* the city of the legion), and the tract from Aquae Solis or Bath in that direction crossed Durdham Down to Sea Mills, where there was a station.

While touching upon this open moor we can hardly forbear to notice its former ill reputation as an arena for midnight murders, and for the horrors of the retributive gibbet it afforded a site for. As far back as 1548, we find it stated that "a man named Cond was hung in chains at the hither end of Durdham Down,

for murdering his master in the very same place." In Westbury churchyard, close to the public path, is a tombstone inscribed, "To the memory of Richard Ruddle, who was coachman to Sir Robert Cann, Bart., and was robbed and murdered by Bennet and Payne, 27th October, 1743," one or both of which villains were hung in chains on the Down for the bloody act. But of these dark deeds, with their penalty, the one that lives most in recollection is the murder, in 1782, of a drover by Shenkin Prothero, a Welshman, on that part of the Down upon which Pembroke Road opens (which road a quarter of a century back was a long rural avenue between two hedges, and known as Gallows Acre Lane), being selected as the site for the gibbet as it had been for the murder. To our own experience of the bracing character of the mountain-like breeze we can add the testimony of the reader's old acquaintance, Sam Weller, who, it may be remembered, in his indefatigable search after the missing Arabella, came, in company with Mr. Pickwick, to Bristol, having ascertained from "certain dark hints and muttering" of Ben Allen that the lady was immured somewhere near the Downs.

Before leaving Durdham Down, we may state that this high table-land comprises a surface of 442 acres, and its elevation is nearly 300 feet above the level of Bristol.

As we enter the village of Westbury, we leave to the left Cote-house (St. Vincent Ames, Esq.)—a handsome turretted mansion of the latter part of the seventeenth century. In 1796, this estate was purchased and improved by the son of the celebrated Josiah Wedgewood, of Etruria, whose retirement here was relieved by the enlightened conversation of many subsequently eminent men of letters and science. Of these, all the world knows S. T. Coleridge, Robert Southey, Sir James Mackintosh, and Sir Humphrey Davy, who might be found associated in the guest-hall.

We next come, on the right, to the boundary wall of Westbury Convent, some particulars concerning the

rules of which may be found in the section on convents in *A Book about Bristol*, where also an account will be found of the monastery formerly at Westbury. The beautiful church is well worthy of the dignity it formerly possessed of being the chief architectural member of a religious college, whose foundation dated back to the venerable antiquity of A.D. 791.

In the midsummer of 1798 Southey, we are told, removed with his mother and his wife from Bath to Westbury. The abode they selected had been previously an inn, and the new comers were expected to sell beer. Just as they were assembled one morning, a respectable woman in a silk gown, walked into their apartment, and laying down her muff, and seating herself by the fire, said, 'I am come to take a little breakfast.' Southey was obliged to leave the room to laugh, but his wife and mother entertained their guest with courteous gravity. When the stranger had finished her meal, she asked what she had to pay. 'Nothing Ma'am,' said Mrs. Southey, sen. 'Nothing! why, how is this?' 'I don't know how it is, but so it is,' replied her hostess. 'Why, don't you keep a public?' said the intruder. The year which Southey spent at Westbury was always remembered by him as one of the happiest portions of his life. It was also one of the busiest. 'I never,' he said in 1838, 'before or since produced so much poetry in the same space of time.' The smaller pieces were communicated by letter to Charles Lamb, and had the advantage of his animadversions. "I was then also in habits of the most frequent and familiar intercourse with Davy, then in the flower and freshness of his youth. We were within an easy walk of each other, over some of the most beautiful ground in that beautiful part of England. When I went to the Pneumatic Institution (in Dowry Square), he had to tell me of some new experiment or discovery, and of the views which it opened to him; and when he came to Westbury there was a fresh portion of *Madoc* for his hearing. Davy encouraged me with his hearty approbation during its progress; and the bag of nitrous oxide with which he

generally regaled me upon my visit to him was not required for raising my spirits to the degree of settled fair, and keeping them at that elevation."

As a prebendary of Westbury, as well as rector of Aust, there can be no doubt that the voice of the renowned reformer, Wycliff was many times heard from the pulpit of this church: nor should we omit to mention that John Trevisa, who flourished as did Wycliff in the days of Chaucer, and is said to have even anticipated the reformer just named in the translation of the Holy Scriptures into the vulgar English tongue, was a Canon of Westbury College. Old Fuller calls Trevisa a "godly, learned, and aged servant of God," whose "masterpiece was the translating of the Old and New Testament, justifying his act herein by the example of Bede, who turned the Gospel of S. John in English. . . . Whereby we may observe that, midnight being past, some early risers even then began to strike fire, and enlighten themselves from the Scriptures."

Sneed Park, the picturesque seat of Francis Tagart, Esq., overlooks the Avon, and derives its name from the saxon *snaed lands*, i.e., 'a piece of land taken from a manor, this park having belonged to the manor of Westbury. Sir Robert Atkyns and the later historians of Gloucestershire have omitted mention of the date of the first appropriation by the Bishops of Worcester of this beautiful passage of scenery. A reference to the *Rotuli Hundredorum*, however, informs us that the site was formerly an open forest for the hunt of all the king's free subjects, but that Godfrey Gifford, Bishop of Worcester, first enclosed the ground with ditches and hedges about the final year of the reign of Henry III.,* (A.D. 1272.) This prelate first converted the monastery at Westbury into a College with Dean and Canons. His magnificence may be judged from his entering Worcester, in connection with the Chapter's assent to this conversion, attended by 140 mounted men.

*For some account of Bishop Gifford see "A Book about Bristol," p. 219.

The house has been much rebuilt, but was originally erected by Joseph Jackson, who bought the estate of the son of Sir Ralph Sadler, to whom the manors of Westbury and Clifton were granted at the dissolution of religious houses.*

Commanding the winding course of the Avon on to the Severn sea, and the Welsh hills beyond, is Cooke's Folly, near the Sea walls, once an insulated ivy-mantled tower, but now incorporated with the castellated house erected by Dr. Henry Goodeve, who now occupies it. The legend attached to the structure has frequently been presented in verse, but in less ambitious form we may briefly recount, that a gentleman named Cooke being warned by a gipsy that his only son was fated to die by violence before he attained manhood, the father in order to evade destiny built this tower, wherein he thought to immure the youth till the period of danger was past. On the evening before the expiration of the time decreed for the accomplishment of his destiny, the weather being cold, the basket was let down for a supply of firewood, which, being gathered from the adjoining thicket, a venomous snake insinuated itself unperceived among the sticks. On the following morning when the fond father rushed into the tower to embrace his son, and to rejoice over the failure of the gipsy's prophecy, he found it fulfilled; the viper had stung the youth and he was dead.

Another account of the origin of the tower is that it was erected in 1693, by the person whose name it bears, for the purpose of an observatory.

Stoke Bishop is, in Domesday Book, called Estock, and it was held by one Eldred, under Earl Harold, upon whose discomfiture it passed to the Bishop of Coutance in Normandy, and was afterwards vested in the Bishops of Worcester, by whom it was held until the year 1547. Stoke House, as it appears in Sir Robert Atkyns' *Gloucestershire*, has a broad pathway leading direct from the ornate porch to the outer

* Rudder, 802.

gate of the mansion, and was well fitted to display the embroidered bodices and farthingales of the fair dames of two centuries ago. This road was effaced and a circuitous approach substituted by Sir Henry Lippincott, in 1778. On the right was a geometrically figured garden, with a fountain in the centre and plantations of trees in other parts of the estate. A date over the porch, 1669, shows when the house was completed by Sir Robert Cann, who, in the "Lives of the Norths", is courteously termed "a morose old merchant of Bristol." His temper was not likely to be improved by the suavity of Judge Jefferies. That silver-tongued chief-justice came to Bristol on the famous Western Assizes. According to his own elegant metaphor, he brought with him a broom which was to be used upon the Corporation. The Mayor and Aldermen, we are told, were a proud body; which only increased Jefferies' pride in humbling them. We have already adverted to the practice of shipping off pilferers and small offenders for servants or slaves to the American colonies. Sir Robert Cann was Mayor at the time of Jefferies' visitation. Cann had never personally been guilty of kidnapping, but at least had more favored than discountenanced the mal-practice. The moral indignation of Jefferies was perhaps even less strong than his delight at a fair opportunity of lashing and reviling the city magnates, whom he made tremble like the kidnapped culprits themselves. He then turned to the Mayor in his scarlet and furs, and having showered upon him his choicest reproaches and given him all the ill epithets his scolding eloquence could supply, he made his worship "quit the bench and go down to the criminals' post at the bar;" and there "plead for himself as a common rogue or thief." When the Mayor hesitated "he bawled at him," and stamping, called for his guards. The citizens seeing their scarlet chief magistrate at the bar were amazed and confounded, but hardly dared or cared to help his cause. After being called to London to answer information against him, Sir Robert Cann, through the

interest of friends, was released from further prosecution. "Go thy way," said the scriptural Jefferies, "sin no more lest a worse thing come unto thee."

The Honorable Dudley North was a suitor for the hand of Lady Gunning, daughter of Sir Robert Cann. The old knight would not consent to yield the prize until Mr. North could settle an estate of three or four thousand a year upon the lady he aspired to, and the lady herself would not marry without her father's sanction. North offered to settle £20,000 to purchase an estate; but the reply was more curt than courteous. "Sir, my answer to your first letter is an answer to your second. Your humble servant, R. C." Sir Robert also wrote to his daughter "to show her the precipice she was upon, going to marry a desperado not worth a groat, and one that would certainly be hanged." But the courtship went on, and when Cann, instead of seeing a gallows in prospect for his son-in-law, saw signs of political and social advancement for him that would add dignity to his own family, he suffered the marriage to take place. The lady, whose judgment and penetration, we are assured, was superior to most of her sex, took care before she went to church to commit her separate maintenance to the flames, and had no reason afterwards for repentance at the act. "The old knight, her father, came at last," we are told, "to be proud of his son-in-law; for when the first visit was paid to Bristol, Mr. North, to humour the vanity of that city and people, put himself in a splendid equipage." And the old man, in his own house, often said to him, "come, son, let us go out and shine," that is, walk about the streets with six footmen in rich liveries attending.*

Henbury, formerly belonged to the see of Worcester, and in 1221, Henry III. commands the constable of Bristol Castle to allow the Bishop of Worcester and his foresters reasonable liberty to cut firewood in his own forest at that place, as his predecessors had been accustomed to do in the time of King John.† Richard, King of the Romans and Earl of Cornwall, somewhat

* Lives of the Norths, III, 120. † Rot. Lett. Clans. I. 484.

later in the reign of Henry III., enclosed a chase at Henbury, as he likewise did at Alweston or Alves-ton, Tokington, and at Over.* To vindicate his claim to the bailiwick of Henbury, the Bishop of Worcester had recourse, A.D. 1275, 9th July, to the characteristic mediæval usage of employing a champion, whose skill in arms enabled him to defeat in single combat the champion of Philip de Stoke, who, it appears, had attempted to seize upon the manor.† A further instance of the rudeness of the times is afforded by the fact of a complaint being made in the 2nd year of Edward I. against Gilbert de Clare, afterwards Earl of Gloucester, who, by the agency of Thomas de Hameldene, his bailiff of Thornbury, entered the meadow-land of Weston St. Lawrence, which did not belong to the fee of the Earl of Gloucester, but to that of the Bishop of Worcester, and there took 15 oxen of William de Veym and drove them to Thornbury, retaining them by force and extortion until they were redeemed by de Veym for 6 marks. Moreover, de Hameldene, on the part of the Earl of Gloucester, sent John Bedel, of Thornbury, to the farm of the same de Veym, at Lawrence Weston, and seized 9 score of sheep and drove them to Thornbury; de Veym raised a hue and cry, mustered a company and recovered his sheep, but the Earl of Gloucester compelled him by force and extortion to pay into the hands of de Hameldene 18 marks. The priests and clerks of Henbury and Westbury likewise sent out their serfs against the depredators, but with little benefit, for Gilbert de Clare compelled them also to pay a mulct of the sum of 8 marks. The result was a party fight at Evesham, the details of which are not given.‡ Henbury Church with its ivied tower is principally of early English or Thirteenth century date. The group of homesteads known as "The Cottages" deservedly attract many visitors.

We are afraid Catherine Morland, the heroine of Northanger Abbey would have been disappointed with Blaise Castle in the light of a feudal fortress. She

* Rot. Hund. 176.

† Annales Wigorn.

‡ Ib.

had been assured that it was “the finest place in England,—worth going fifty miles at any time to see.”

“What, is it really a castle, an old castle? The oldest in the kingdom! But is it like what one reads of? Exactly,—the very same: But now really, are there towers and long galleries? By dozens.”

The tower is one, and the antiquity is none, but the woodland scenery and the remains of an Ancient Roman entrenchment, are worth going fifty miles at any time to see.

STATISTICS.

The total population of Bristol, as estimated for the middle of 1876, was 199,589, and was distributed as follows:—

The Sub-District of St. Mary Redcliff	...	10,530
„ „ Castle Precincts...	...	8,680
„ „ St. Paul ...	...	17,193
„ „ St. James...	...	9,486
„ „ St. Augustine ...	...	15,200
„ „ Bedminster ...	...	33,406
„ „ Clifton ...	...	29,353
„ „ Ashley ...	...	16,415
„ „ St. Philip ...	...	46,675
„ „ Westbury...	...	12,601

Dr. DAVIES' Report,

Jews in Bristol. The number of Jews in Bristol at the period of the meeting of the British Association in 1875 was 280, men, women and children. From the point of about a century ago up to the last thirty years the congregation had increased, but from this later date there has been no increase. There are 60 seat holders in the synagogue.*

* These details have been ascertained and kindly supplied by Henry Mosely, Esq.

The strength of the Police Force (1877) in the City of Bristol is 361 persons, or 12 acres to each constable, or one to 504 of the population. The number of public-houses is 456; beer-houses 780; refreshment-houses with wine licenses 26; grocers with licenses to sell wine 18.

The first School Board was elected on January 27th, 1871. By an educational census soon after taken it was found there were then in Bristol 7,712 children between 3 and 5 years of age, and 26,915 between the age of 5 and 13 years.



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*THE CELEBRATED SWISS RUSTIC FRAMES, SO
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Foreign workmen constantly employed to execute special orders.

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MERCHANTS.
DECORATIONS
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SUPPLIED.

& CRINKS,

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VICTORIA STREET,
BRISTOL.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Daily Conservative Paper of Bristol and the West of
England is the

Daily Bristol Times & Mirror,

WHICH IS PRINTED IN FOUR PAGES, CONTAINING
TWENTY-EIGHT LONG COLUMNS,

ONE PENNY.

In SATURDAY'S EDITION the Size is doubled to Eight
Pages of 56 Columns, the price being

TWO PENCE.

TO ADVERTISERS.

Felix Farley's Journal (established 1714) was incorporated with the *Bristol Times* in April, 1853; and the *Bristol Times and Journal* with the *Bristol Mirror* in January, 1865. By this union a most important accession of support has been acquired. THE DAILY BRISTOL TIMES AND MIRROR, and its enlarged Saturday Sheet, as vehicles of publicity for sales, addresses, &c. reach the readers of every class of society in the city and adjoining counties, and not only traverse the area over which two leading papers circulated, but command a greatly enlarged territory and connexion, thus obviously possessing advantages equalled by few Journals in the United Kingdom, and certainly unsurpassed by any Newspaper West of the Metropolis.

Being desirous of offering every facility to Advertisers, the Proprietors have arranged the annexed

SCALE OF CHARGES

FOR PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS OF THE FOLLOWING CHARACTER:—

Situations Wanted	Apartments Wanted	Money to be Lent
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Houses Wanted	Partnerships Wanted	Articles Found
Houses to be Let	Money Wanted	&c. &c.

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16	6d.	1s. 0d.	1s. 6d.
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Every description of Printing executed by Steam Power, with Economy, Neatness
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Office—New Post-Office Road, Small Street.

THE CHIEF DAILY PAPER.

Western Daily Press,

1, BROAD STREET, BRISTOL.

EIGHT PAGES EVERY MORNING.

GREATEST POLITICAL INFLUENCE,
LATE AND EXCLUSIVE NEWS,
LARGEST CIRCULATION,
MOST ADVERTISEMENTS
IN THIS PART OF ENGLAND.

The Bristol Observer

Circulates more copies in Bristol and Clifton than there
are Houses in these places.

WEEKLY CIRCULATION EXCEEDS 53,000.

OFFICE:—1, BROAD STREET, BRISTOL.

Bristol Evening News.

ONLY EVENING PAPER IN BRISTOL.

THE DAY'S NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

OFFICE:—3, BROAD STREET, BRISTOL.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

ESTABLISHED 1850.

The Clifton Chronicle

AND DIRECTORY,

Eight Pages—Forty-Eight Columns. Published every WEDNESDAY MORNING, at 8, Rodney Place, Clifton, and Guildhall, Broad Street, Bristol.

Price ONE PENNY.

The *Clifton Chronicle* contains, besides the ordinary features of a Family Newspaper, a Directory of the Inhabitants of Clifton and Redland; a Weekly List of Arrivals, Removals and Departures; together with a PROFESSIONAL and TRADE DIRECTORY, containing a Classified List of Professions and Trades.

TERMS FOR INSERTION OF AN ADDRESS:—1/- per Month, or 10/- per Annum (payable in advance), and including a copy of the paper delivered gratis.

As a Medium for addressing the Upper and Middle Classes, the *Clifton Chronicle* is unsurpassed.

Proprietors, E. Austin & Son, (Bristol Correspondents of *The Times*.)

Publishing Offices:—Stationery Warehouse, 8, Rodney Place, Clifton, and Guildhall, Broad Street, Bristol. Printing Offices:—Regent Street, West, Clifton.

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ÆRATED WATER CO.,

LIMITED.

Sole Licensees in Bristol for supplying Aerated Waters in

Barrett & Eler's Patent Stoppered Bottles

ALL KINDS OF

ÆRATED WATERS, CORDIALS, &c.,

Of the best quality supplied by this Company at reasonable prices.

TERMS ON APPLICATION.

Manufactory—NEWFOUNDLAND ROAD,
ST. PAUL'S, BRISTOL.

The Bristol Mercury,

WESTERN COUNTIES, MONMOUTHSHIRE,
AND SOUTH WALES ADVERTISER.

The BRISTOL MERCURY has for many years been recognised as the head of the Newspaper Press West of the Metropolis. Is universally read in Bristol, and most extensively distributed throughout the Counties of Gloucester, Somerset, Wilts, Dorset, Devon, Cornwall, Monmouth, and Hereford, the whole of South Wales and other parts of the kingdom. The advantages it offers to Advertisers who desire the fullest publicity for their announcements are quite unapproached by any other paper in the West of England. This fact has been long recognised by Professional Men, Auctioneers, &c.

Published every Saturday. Price 2d. Stamped 2½d.

The Bristol Daily Post,

Price ONE PENNY.

Published in conjunction with SATURDAY'S MERCURY, on the remaining days of the week, is both in numbers and influence, the LEADING DAILY PAPER in Bristol, the West of England, and South Wales.
TO ADVERTISERS.—The MERCURY AND DAILY POST ARE THE BEST PAPERS FOR ADVERTISEMENTS WEST OF LONDON.

G. & C. SOMERTON,

OFFICES—35, BROAD STREET, BRISTOL.

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Second-Hand Bookseller,
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(Near Bristol Bridge,)
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Catalogues Gratis and Post-free.

LIBRARIES & MISCELLANEOUS LOTS OF BOOKS
PURCHASED.

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WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
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(OPPOSITE "THE NEPTUNE,")
TEMPLE,
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LONDON AND LOCAL PAPERS DELIVERED TO ANY
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CLIFTON DOWN HOTEL.

*Elegantly fitted with every comfort,
having an unrivalled situation and
moderate Charges.*

N.B.—From this Hotel the following trips are easy, returning to the Hotel the same day:—CHEPSTOW CASTLE, the WYNDCLIFFE, TINTERN ABBEY, WELLS CATHEDRAL, GLASTONBURY TOR, WESTON-SUPER-MARE, BATH, &c.

D. GITTINS, Manager.

JOHN  FROST,

Carver, Gilder & Picture Restorer,

DEALER IN WORKS OF ART.

GALLERY OF FINE ARTS,
12 & 13, Clare Street, Bristol,

AND

19, Triangle, Clifton.

ARTISTS' COLORMAN.

THE
GRAND HOTEL,
(Late WHITE LION)
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This Hotel is unsurpassed for comfort and elegance, and known for centuries to families of the first distinction, also for its commercial pre-eminence. Fire-proof throughout. It has fine Billiard-rooms, and its large Banqueting Hall is well adapted for Public Meetings, Sales by Auction, Soirées, &c.

NOTED HOUSE FOR TURTLE.

JOHN J. EHMANN, *Manager,*

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ESTATE REGISTER,
Containing particulars of Estates, Lands and Houses, Town
and Country Residences, Furnished and Unfurnished,
Business Property, &c. &c. Published Monthly
BY
HUGHES AND SON,

ESTATE & HOUSE AGENTS,
APPRAISERS, &c.



Offices:—No. 38, COLLEGE GREEN
BRISTOL.

Opposite the Civic High Cross, and Royal Hotel.
ESTABLISHED 1832.

At whose Offices any further information may be obtained, personally or by letter, free of charge to the applicant.

H. & S. undertake the general management of Houses and Estates on fixed and moderate terms, which include supervision of repairs, collection of rents, and re-letting when void.

These Registers are largely circulated throughout the kingdom, are carefully corrected at the beginning of each month, and forwarded immediately to any applicant seeking a residence or investment.

Persons wishing to insert property in these Registers are requested to forward full particulars at least three days previous to the end of the month.

Blank Forms for supplying the necessary descriptions may be had on application.

Valuations effected to ascertain Probate Duty. Houses, Estates, Lands, Household Furniture, and other Property valued for transfer, arbitration, and general purposes. Inventories taken. Insurances effected at lowest rates.

BRISTOL CO-OPERATIVE LAND & BUILDING SOCIETY.

Offices:—13, SMALL STREET.

President and Treasurer:

JOHN WILLIAM MILES, Esq., Kingsweston.

SHARES, £10 & £20 Each---MONTHLY PAYMENTS, 5/-

DEBENTURES FOR MONEY ON
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PAYABLE HALF-YEARLY.

Prospectus and all other information on application to

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EDKINS & SONS,
BUILDERS,
AND
HOUSE DECORATORS.

Every Branch of the Trade executed in any part of
the Country.

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ADVERTISEMENTS.

JAS. TEMPLE & SONS,
Timber, Slate & Marble Merchants,
 ENAMELLED SLATE & MARBLE WORKS,
 SAWING, PLANING AND GROOVING MILLS,
 CANONS' MARSH, BRISTOL.



MANUFACTURERS OF
 SLATE MILK COOLERS.
 " WHEY TROUGHS.
 " CISTERNS & BREWERS' VATS
 " MANGERS.
 " CREESE, (PATENT)
 " AND MARBLE BATHS.
 " BILLIARD BEDS.
 " MARBLE & OTHER TOMBS.
 " CHIMNEY TOPS.
 " MARBLE COUNTERS, WASH TOPS,
 Etc. Etc.

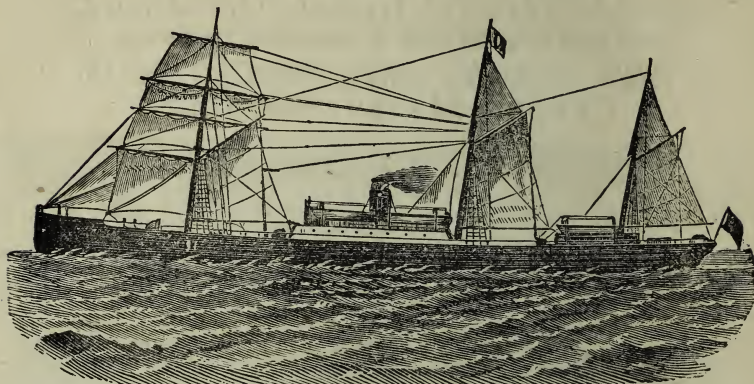
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 BANGOR AND OTHER SLATES.
 STONEWARE DRAINING PIPES
 " CHIMNEY TOPS.
 " CEMENT, PLASTER,
 AND
 ALL OTHER DESCRIPTIONS
 OF
 BUILDING MATERIALS,
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EXTENSIVE SHOW ROOMS for Chimney Pieces & Grates.

Price Lists and Designs free on application.

Great Western Steamship Line.

BRISTOL AND NEW YORK.



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CORNWALL	..	2000	"	WM. STAMPER,
ARRAGON	..	1500	"	GEORGE SYMONS.
DEVON..	..	2000	"	BUILDING.

The Vessels of this line carry only a limited number of Passengers, every attention being paid to their comfort and convenience.

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SECOND CABIN Passage to New York, Boston, or Philadelphia, Eight Guineas ; Children under eight, Half-fare ; Infants under twelve months, One Guinea. Second Cabin Passengers are provided with Beds, Bedding, and all necessary Utensils, Wash Basins, &c., and with a good Dietary Table.

STEERAGE Passage to New York, Boston, or Philadelphia, including an abundant supply of Cooked Provisions, Five Guineas. Passengers booked through to all parts of the United States and Canada on very moderate terms in connection with the Erie Railway Company. Twenty Cubic Feet of Luggage will be allowed for each Adult Saloon Passenger, Fifteen Cubic Feet for each Adult Second Cabin, and Ten feet for each Steerage Passenger free ; for over that quantity a charge of 1/6 for each Cubic Foot will be made.

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MARK WHITWILL & SON,
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CREAM OR BLUE LAID, 3/6 per 1000; 5000 for 16/3.

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Printers and Publishers,
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Beg to call attention to their Establishment for the
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*Plain, Ornamental, Coloured, or
Best Illustrated*

FINE PRINTING.

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F. GREATORIX,

(Late Manager to E. Thornley).

LONG LOTH SHIRTS (our own make) 6s. 6d. & 7s. 6d.

*In all sizes, ready for Wear, or made to Measure in a Week
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COLLARS made to Pattern in Four Days

SHOWER-PROOF COATS from One Guinea.

SCARFS, TIES, HANDKERCHIEFS, BRACES,
DRESSING GOWNS, RUGS, UMBRELLAS, &c.

The best Half-crown Glove in Bristol.

(Ladies' and Gentlemen's).

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OPPOSITE STUCKEY'S BANK.

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GALVANIZED NETTING & EVERY DESCRIPTION
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INTEREST PAID HALF-YEARLY.

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H. PAYNE & CO.,

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Wholesale Manufacturers and Importers of all descriptions of

**CLOCKS, WATCHES, MUSICAL BOXES,
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GOLD, SILVER, AND PLATED JEWELLERY
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

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Largest Stock of GOLD and SILVER WATCHES, &c., in
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ESTABLISHED 1830.

To Wholesale Houses wishing to cultivate or
increase a Business Connection

WRIGHT'S TIME TABLES WITH A B C SUPPLEMENT

Is offered as the most effectual medium for respectable
Advertisements throughout the South and West of
England, and South Wales.

The Sale of these Time Tables extends through the
Counties of Gloucester, Hereford, Monmouth, Wilts,
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The Circulation exceeds that of ANY other Time
Table in the Kingdom excepting "Bradshaw," and it
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the Western and South Wales Districts.

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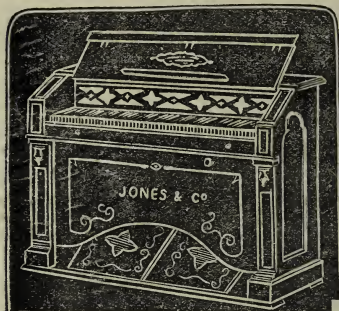
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**Manufacturers
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21 and 22, BRIDGE STREET.

AMERICAN ORGANS, by all the best makers, £7 10s. to £150.

Organists' Pedal HARMONIUMS always in Stock.

PIANOFORTES on easy terms of purchase.

HIRE SYSTEM APPLIED TO ALL INSTRUMENTS.

REPAIRING AND TUNING.

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Instruments of all kinds Bought or Taken in Exchange.

W. HATTON & SONS,
Pastry-cooks & Ornamental Confectioners,

21, UNION ST., and 20, OLD MARKET ST.,

Established nearly Forty Years,

Present their respectful compliments to their Patrons and the Public generally, and beg to thank them for the kind and generous support which they have received in the past, and trust by strict personal attention to all orders entrusted to them to merit a continuance of the same.

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Completely Furnished. Bills of Fare and Price on application.

BRIDE CAKES.

Our Finest Quality, extra-thick Almond Iced and Ornamented, with Centres, 2s. per lb. on Silver Stands.

Plain Almond Iced, for cutting up, best quality, 1s. 8d. per lb.

CHRISTENING CAKES,

Handsomely Ornamented with Bonbons, Flowers, and Centres, 1s. 8d. per lb.

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Handsomely Ornamented, with Inscription and Name, in Pink and White Sugar, 1s. 6d. per lb.

HATTON AND SONS

FORWARD THEIR CAKES TO ALL PARTS OF GREAT BRITAIN, SECURELY
PACKED IN BOXES.